

***Homeria spp***  
***Syn Moraea flaccida***

**Common name:**  
Cape tulip

**Palatability to Livestock:**  
Seldom eaten.

**Toxicity to Goats:**  
Moderate risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**  
Toxic to cattle, sheep, horses and donkeys.

**Poisonous Principle:**  
Cardiac glycosides.

**Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*

- . Loss of appetite, weakness, staggering,
- . Abdominal pain, paralysis,
- . Stiffness, dysentery, depression,
- . Slow irregular heart beat, heart block.

*Health and Production Problems;*  
Varied response, from nil to rapid death.

*Treatment;*

- . Try powdered charcoal, or kaolin.
- . Try potassium salts as a drench.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**

- . Can be hand pulled into disposable bags before flowering, ensuring corms are still attached to the plant.
- . Try herbicides before flowering, Group B or I.
- . A declared “Noxious Weed” in Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, and parts of NSW.

**Comments:**

- . Serious weed of pasture and crop lands.
- . Perennial herb with annual leaves and flowers.

- . Grows from a bright yellow corm, covered with woody fibres. Each corm develops 1 or 2 new corms.
- . May have either one, or two leaves only, deep green, long and narrow, with ribs.
- . Flowers are pink to salmon/orange, in spring, scattered along branches.
- . All parts of these plants are toxic.
- . Native of South Africa.
- . A weed of pastures, disturbed ground and roadsides.
- . Found in southern NSW, Victoria, SA and WA.
- . Usually cattle are found poisoned, not being used to the plant. Cattle raised on the plant are seldom affected.



Picture: NE CC Poster *Homeria spp*



Picture: Brushoff

**Further Reading:**

- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of NSW. 1981.
- . Harden. Flora of NSW. 1993
- . Kohnke. Feeding and Nutrition of Horses. 1998
- . McBarron. Poisonous Plants Handbook. 1983.
- . Parsons and Cuthbertson. Noxious Weeds of Australia..2001
- . Shepherd. Pretty but Poisonous. 2004.
- . Swarbrick and Skarratt. Bushweed 2 Database. 1994