

Hypericum triquetrifolium

Common name:

Tangled hypericum
Waxy leaf St John's wort,

Palatability to Livestock:

Moderate, before flowering.

Toxicity to Goats:

Moderate risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Toxic to horses, cattle and sheep.

Poisonous Principle:

Hypericin, and pseudohypericin.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Mild diarrhoea,
- . Skin irritation, especially the head,
- . Reddening and swelling of the face and ears,
- . Hind limb weakness,
- . Increased pulse, and body temperature,
- . Excess panting and salivation.

Health and Production Problems;

- . Affected animals avoid the sun,
- . Rub sore faces raw, resulting in scabs.
- . Chronic ill-thrift and loss of production.

Treatment;

- . Provide shade.
- . Try local application of Condy's crystals.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Do not cultivate as spread is by root pieces.
- . Use herbicides.
- . A prohibited weed in Victoria.

Comments:

- . An erect perennial growing to about half a metre high.
- . Stems develop from the crown, becoming reddish as they age.

- . The leaves are long and stem-clasping, with wavy margins and arrow-shaped.
- . Flowers are yellow and daisy-like, on short stalks, on the ends of the branches.
- . Fruit is a capsule with three cells, containing brown/red seeds.
- . Germination is in autumn, and flowers are produced in summer.
- . A native of eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.



Picture: wikipedia

Further Reading:

- . Landcare Note. Victoria.
- . Parsons and Cuthbertson. Noxious Weeds of Australia. 2001
- . Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000