**Ixiolaena brevicompta**

**Common name:**
Flat billy-buttons, Plains plover daisy,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Low.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Moderate risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
Potentially toxic to sheep.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Unsaturated fatty acids of the crepenynic acid type.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
. Muscle weakness, short strides, staggering, and collapse in hind legs,
. Irregular heart action,
. Increased temperature, and respiration.
. At post mortem, the affected muscles of hind legs are pale in colour.

**Health and Production Problems:**
. Continued ingestion may kill the animal.

**Treatment:**
. Try selenium drench.
. Remove stock from paddocks before plants are mature.
. Keep young stock off this weed.
. Be aware of potential stock problems.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Herbicides and cultivation.
. Graze flood plains early to reduce the amount of plant available.

**Comments:**
. Low growing, branched, annual or short lived perennial with a hard woody base.

. Stems are slender, covered with white cottony hairs, rough and woody.
. Leaves are green, very narrow, with no stalk.
. Flowerheads are circular, single, yellow, with bristles at the base of the flower, in warmer months, flowers have a distinctive flat base.
. Multiple seeds are angular and hairless.
. Toxins are concentrated in the seeds.
. Common in inland Australia, from central Queensland, to central NSW to SA.
. Lambs are affected first, older animals die when driven.
. Not normally eaten as it is fairly unpalatable.
. Only mature dried seed heads are poisonous.
. Trouble can occur in sheep of all ages, usually within two weeks after grazing has started, mustering may exacerbate the problem.

Picture: *Ixiolaena brevicompta* NSW flora online

**References;**

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