**Lantana camara**

**Common name:**
Lantana,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
High at all stages.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Low risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
. Toxic to cattle and sheep, ruminants.
. Not toxic to horses.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Triterpene compounds, notable lantadene.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
. Loss of appetite, depression,
. Frequent urination,
. Constipation, or transient foul smelling diarrhoea,
. Dehydration,
. Jaundice, and photosensitization of white body areas.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Sometimes partial recovery, with permanent liver or kidney damage.
. Sometimes death within a short time.

**Treatment:**
See Vet.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Remove mechanically, burn, herbicides, pasture improvement.
. Use goats on non-toxic varieties.
. Biological control agents are being tested.
. Declared “Noxious” in some areas.

**Comments:**
. Toxicity is not tied to colour, but to type or variety, controlled by genetic factors, not environmental factors.

A shrub up to four metres high, a scrambling, branched, perennial. Stems are square in cross section, with short hard prickles.
. Flowers are white, pink, red, yellow, orange, - tubular flowers, in small heads, most of the year.
. Fruit is toxic, (especially if green), ripening to black, growing in clusters.
. Leaves are smelly if handled, opposite, oval, slightly hairy, with toothed margins, and a distinct odour when crushed.
. Scratches are painful, and often fester, a skin and eye irritant.
. Eating berries can cause renal failure, even several weeks after ingestion.
. All red and orange flowered forms appear to be toxic. Occasionally the northern pink variety may be toxic.
. Other varieties may not be toxic.
. Plants originated in S America.

**Further Reading:**
. AGDEX 647
. Wilson, Some Plants are Poisonous 1997

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