

Ludwegia peruviana

Common name:

Ludwegia, Water primrose,

Palatability to Livestock:

Seldom eaten.

Toxicity to Goats:

Low risk, unless hungry.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Maybe cattle.

Poisonous Principle:

Unknown.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Suspected of causing gastro-enteritis in cattle.
- . Horses, cattle and goats have been affected in Queensland.
- . Listless and tucked-up, frothing at the mouth, and clamping of the jaws.
- . Staggering, slobbering.
- . Paralysis of the hind quarters, and dead within 2 days.
- . Abortion, or birth of dead calves.

Health and Production Problems;

- . Be aware of potential stock problems.

Treatment;

- . Try activated charcoal.
- . Remove stock from plant.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . A water weed.
- . Drag out and dispose.
- . Slash and burn.
- . Herbicides at flowering, or actively growing.

Comments:

- . A herb with prostrate stems which can float on the water or creep through mud, rooting at the nodes.
- . Floating stems are thick, soft and spongy, pale green or almost white, with numerous branched lateral shoots.
- . Flowering stems are usually erect and covered with fine soft hairs, and pale yellow.
- . Leaves are alternate, narrow, stalked, bright green and shiny,
- . Occurs from N Qld to the Murray in SA.
- . Most poisonings occur in spring and summer, which is the active period of growth.



Picture: *Ludwegia peruviana*
nsw.gov.au/weeds

Further Reading:

- . AGDEX 647.
- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981
- . McBarron, Poisonous Plants, Handbook.1983.
- . Parsons and Cuthbertson. Noxious Weeds of Australia. 2001.