**Maireana spp**

**Common name:**
Bluebush,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Moderate.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Low risk.

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

**Poisonous Principle:**
Oxalates, nitrates.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
. Acute poisoning causes muscle tremors,
. Staggering gait,
. Collapse, and sudden death.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Chronic kidney disease,
. Associated ill-thrift.

*Treatment;*
. Be aware of potential stock problems.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Control achieved by grazing management.
. Avoid hungry stock grazing on the plant after rain.

**Comments:**
. There are many species, all are small, upright, perennials.
. Herbs or sub-shrubs, growing all year round, up to a metre high.
. Densely arranged, narrow, cylindrical, succulent, furry leaves, giving a bluish white appearance.
. Flowers are mostly inconspicuous, very occasionally brightly coloured papery petals.
. Fruiting body has papery wings, circular and light brown.

. A good fodder plant, but can be poisonous after rain, producing hazardous amounts of nitrates.

Picture: *Maireana astrotricha* AALBG

**Further Reading:**

Information included in this Info Sheet was obtained from the source documents, and no responsibility will be accepted by the compiler.