

Myoporum deserti

Common name:

Ellangowan poison bush, Dogwood,
Turkey bush, Emu bush,

Palatability to Livestock:

Moderate, at times.

Toxicity to Goats:

Moderate risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Toxic to sheep and cattle.

Poisonous Principle:

Furanosesquiterpenes, ngaione.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Depression, arched back in sheep,
- . Bottle jaw,
- . Laboured respiration,
- . Jaundice,
- . Photosensitization.

Health and Production Problems;

Death from liver failure within days.

Treatment;

Be aware of potential stock problems.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Deny hungry stock access to the plant.
- . Traveling stock not used to the plant are the most affected.
- . Control achieved by grazing management.

Comments:

- . A dense shrub growing to about a metre high.
- . Branches are thin and grey-brown.
- . Leaves are bitter and burning to the taste, in various shapes and sizes, alternate, thick in texture, and tapered to a tip.

- . Bell shaped flowers are white, appearing singly or in clusters of two to three, in the forks of leaves.
- . Flowers appearing in winter.
- . The fruits are round, ripening to yellow.
- . Occurs in all mainland states, mainly in inland areas.
- . If livestock are introduced to this plant gradually, they may tolerate reasonable amounts in their diet.
- . Travelling stock seem to be most at risk from this plant.



Picture: *Myoporum deserti* Qld DPI

References;

- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981
- . Dowling and McKenzie, Poisonous Plants. Qld DPI. . 1993.
- . Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000