**Nerium oleander**

**Common name:**
Oleander, Rose Bay, Rose Laurel,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Not known to be eaten.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
High risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
Toxic to all livestock species, poultry and humans.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Cardenolide cardiac glycosides.
Found in all parts of the plant, especially the flowers.

**Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*
. Sweating, and loss of appetite,
. Colic, diarrhoea,
. Dilation of the pupils,
. Irregular heart beat, fast or slow,
. Vomiting, convulsions, muscle tremors,
. Irregular respiration, breathing difficulty.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Affects the autonomic and central nervous system, myocardium and gastro-intestinal tract.
. Death from heart or respiratory problems.

**Treatment:**
See Vet or Doctor.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Garden plant or escapee.
. Dispose of cuttings carefully.
. Do not burn! Fumes are toxic.
. Grub out all of the root, or use weed mat.
. Cut stump, with Glyphosate or Tordon®

**Comments:**
. Be aware, even the smoke is toxic.
. In humans, vomiting, diarrhoea, dizziness, dilated pupils, heart irregularities, death from heart failure and respiratory paralysis.
. Not recommended for “herbal teas”.
. Exudes a thick white sap when damaged, which burns the mucous membranes of mouth and intestines.
. Evergreen, thick leafy shrub, with glossy dark green leaves, growing 6 metres or more; most plants are pruned.
. Strikes from cuttings and seeds.
. Elongated pods, seeds with silky hairs.
. Pink, red, or white flowers, with five petals, in clusters at end of branches, spring to autumn.
. All stages of growth are toxic to birds.
. Food plant for Australian Crow Butterfly; the butterfly is black and white, larvae orange black and grey.

Picture: *Nerium oleander* Helen Simmonds. Calga NSW

**Further Reading:**
. Covacevich., Davie and Pearn

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