**Panicum spp**

**Common name:**
Panic grasses

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Moderate.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Low risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
Sheep, probably other grazing stock.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Unknown.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
- Syndrome called “Yellow Bighead”
- Photosensitization.

*Health and Production Problems;*
- Swellings over face and ears,
- Scalding and ulceration.

*Treatment;*
- Remove stock to shady areas.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
- Be aware of potential stock problems.

**Comments:**
- Annual or perennial grasses, mainly in NSW and Queensland.
- Tufted, short to medium height, perennial or annual grasses.
- Leaf blades usually broad, with hairy nodes on the stems, sometimes a sprawling habit.
- Single seeded grasses with open seed-heads, giving rise to straw like tumbleweeds.
- Makes rapid growth in times of heat and moisture, and dries off quickly.
- In excess, several varieties cause sunburn to livestock.

. Found all over Australia, in one variety or another.
. Some are important fodder grasses.
. Some spp have given, at times, positive tests for HCN, nitrates and/or oxalates, also photosensitization.

Further Reading:

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