

Philodendron scandens

Common name:

Philodendron,

Palatability to Livestock:

Not known to be eaten.

Toxicity to Goats:

Unknown.

Toxicity to Other Species:

- . Livestock in general, especially cats.
- . Also dogs and children.

Poisonous Principle:

- . Unknown,
- . Maybe calcium oxalate, and histamines.

Effects:

Signs and Symptoms:

- . Irritation and swelling of mouth and throat,
- . Nausea, vomiting,
- . Difficult respiration.

Health and Production Problems:

- . Be aware of potential problems.

Treatment:

- . See Vet or Doctor.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Take care with prunings

Comments:

- . Garden, or indoor plant.
- . An evergreen, trailing, climbing vine, often trained up trees or stakes.
- . Leaves are dark green, large and heart-shaped, tapering, and on short stalks.
- . Flowers are a white spike, with a green spathe, on long drooping stems.
- . The berries grow on a spike, white to orange or red.
- . All parts are toxic, and also a skin and eye irritant.

. Cats seem to be particularly susceptible to poisoning by this indoor plant, injuries sustained when playing with the “toy”.



Picture: *Philodendron scandens* Wikimedia

Further Reading:

- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981.
- . Shepherd. Pretty but Poisonous. 2004.