**Proboscidea louisianica**

**Common name:** Purple devil’s claw,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Not eaten.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Not toxic.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
Not toxic.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Nil.

**Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*
Damaged mouths and feet in stock.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Seed capsules cause damage to shearing equipment.
. Seeds cause lameness and hang-ups in sheep,
. Veg fault in fleece.

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

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Dig out individual plants.
. Mechanically remove before the pods form.
. A declared “Noxious” weed in parts of NSW and Victoria.

**Comments:**
. A spreading, low growing, annual plant.
. Branches are hollow, covered with sticky hairs, which if damaged will ooze a sticky sap.
. Leaves are variable in size, roundish, and not flat.
. Trumpet-shaped flowers with a long lower lip, creamy white, to mauve, to purple flowers, with purple and orange spots.

. The seed capsule forms a long, curved beak which splits at maturity to form two hard claws.
. These claws may be up to 20 cms long, curved and hard, which make it very dangerous to grazing livestock.
. Small black seeds are in the head of the pod.

References;
. Lamp and Collett
. Parsons and Cuthbertson.

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