**Solanum esuriale,**

**Common name:**
Quena, Potato weed, Wild tomato,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Seldom eaten.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Low risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
Pigs, cattle, sheep.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Solanine type toxin.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
. Gastroenteritis,
. Fast noisy heart beat,
. Humped back,
. Stress.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Animals will die if driven or stressed.

*Treatment;*
None, rest is the only cure.

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

**Comments:**
. A perennial, growing to about 30 cm high, occasionally bushy, with short creeping roots.
. One or more erect branched stems.
. Leaves and stems, grey/yellow/green, hairy, seldom has prickles, only on base of stems.
. Leaves long and thin, velvety, with a rounded tip.
. Mainly blue/purple flowers on long stems, star-shaped, five petals, with yellow centres, occurring most of the year.
. Berry is round and yellow, fleshy, with two cells.

. Growth is in warmer months.
. Found in all mainland states, especially in inland areas.
. A pioneer weed after drought or fire.
. Suspected of causing “humpyback”, in wethers and rams, in good condition and full wool, when being mustered during summer heat, circumstantial evidence only.
. Forced movement usually kills the animals; they should be left to rest, and shorn in cooler conditions.

**Further Reading:**
. Henry, Hall, Jordan, Milson, Schefe and Silcock. Pasture Plants of Southern Inland Qld. 1995

Information contained in this Info Sheet was obtained from the source documents, and no responsibility will be accepted by the compiler.