

Solanum sturtianum

Common name:

Thargomindah nightshade,

Palatability:

Occasionally eaten.

Toxicity to Goats:

Low risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Potentially toxic to sheep and cattle.

Poisonous Principle:

Possibly solarsoline.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Diarrhoea.
- . Nervous depression.

Health and Production Problems;

- . Weight loss.
- . Death maybe due to heart failure.

Treatment;

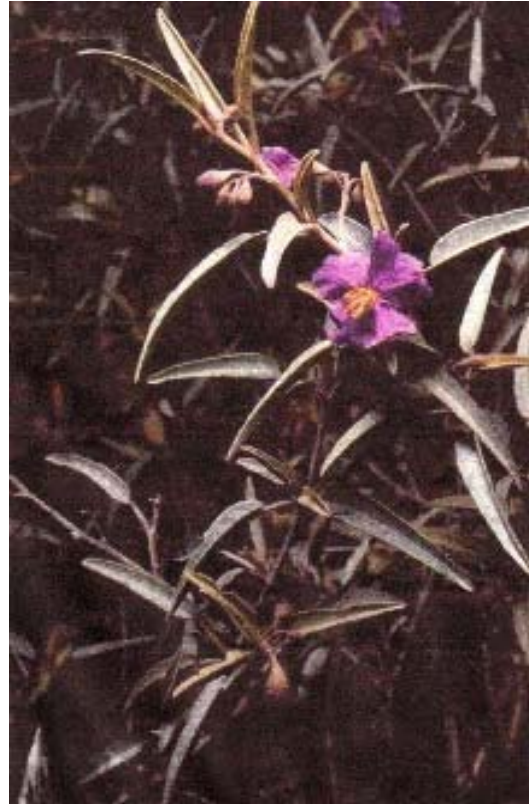
Be aware of potential stock problems.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Prevent seeding, grub out.
- . Spot spray with herbicide.

Comments:

- . A shrub about 1 m high, with many branches, grey-green with down, with some stiff spines.
- . Leaves grey-green with a close coating of hairs especially on the lower surface, long and narrow on a short stalk.
- . Flowers in clusters on a stalk, bluish purple, and quite large, with five petals.
- . Found in all mainland states except for Victoria, in arid regions, far west NSW and Queensland.
- . Poisoning occurs in traveling stock under stress, with no choice of feed.
- . Mostly sheep and cattle are affected.



Picture: *Solanum sturtianum* rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

Further Reading:

- . Cunningham, Mulham, Milthorpe and Leigh. Plants of Western NSW. 1999.
- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981.
- . McBarron. Poisonous Plants, Handbook. 1983.
- . Parsons and Cuthbertson. Noxious Weeds of Australia. 2001.
- . Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000.