**Anagallis arvensis**

**Common name:**
Scarlet pimpernel

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Not readily eaten.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Unknown.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
. Toxic to sheep, cattle, horses, and birds,
. Maybe also to dogs, guinea pigs, and rabbits.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Glycocides, and other toxins.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
. General depression,
. Suspension of rumination,
. Diarrhoea and thirst,
. Incidence is variable.

**Health and Production Problems:**
. Care should be taken to avoid forcing hungry animals to graze this plant, on fallow land.

**Treatment:**
See Vet.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Hand pull, or cultivate,
. Herbicides if necessary.

**Comments:**
. A small annual, occasionally perennial, herb with square stems, branching from the base.
. Can be creeping or erect.
. Leaves are opposite, shiny and stalkless.
. Stems and underside of leaves carry tiny dark hairs; spreads rapidly during summer.
. Flowers are dark orange/red, on long stems, only opening in sunshine; flowering is usually late winter to spring.

. Fruit is a small globular capsule, which splits, showing 3-angled brown seeds.
. A similar spp *A. foemina*, has blue flowers, and shorter stalks.
. Native to Europe, and found on disturbed, damp soil, in gardens, waste places, and in semi-exposed sites, in temperate regions.
. Stock seem to find this plant unpalatable.
. Contaminated chaff may be toxic.

**Further Reading:**