

## *Gloriosa superba*

### **Common name:**

Glory lily, Climbing lily, Flame Lily,

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

Not known to be eaten.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

High risk.

### **Toxicity to Other Species:**

Toxic to all livestock species.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

Colchicine alkaloids.

### **Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*

- . Violent diarrhoea,
- . Nervous symptoms,
- . Progressive respiratory failure.

*Health and Production Problems;*

- . Death within hours of eating, or for very small amounts, death within a few days.
- . In humans - Tingling and numbness of tongue and throat, skin irritation, respiratory symptoms, irregular heart beat.

*Treatment;*

See Vet or Doctor.

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

- . A garden plant. Do not feed these clippings to any livestock.
- . Use herbicide.
- . Weed out into disposable bags.

### **Comments:**

- . All parts are poisonous especially the tubers.
- . A prostrate perennial, with tuberous roots.
- . Leaves are a bright shiny green attached directly to the stem, tapered to a long tendril-like tip, opposite or whorled around the stem.

- . The flowers appear to be upside down, and single, with stiff stalks, in the forks of leaves, red or orange petals curving upward.
- . Summer to autumn flowering.
- . The fruits are green, 3 lobed and club shaped, drooping and containing red spongy seeds.
- . A native of tropical Asia and Africa, now naturalised in parts of Australia.
- . The root is very toxic, flowers and leaves less so.



Picture: *Gloriosa superba* flowers

### **Further Reading:**

- . Everist..Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981.
- . Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000
- . Wilson. Some Plants are Poisonous. 1997
- . Shepherd. Pretty but Poisonous. 2004.