

Macadamia spp

Common name:

Macadamia nut,

Palatability to Livestock:

Unknown.

Toxicity to Goats:

Unknown.

Toxicity to Other Species:

. Dogs, estimated four to five nuts for a twenty kilogram dog is lethal.

Poisonous Principle:

. Unknown, similar species contain cyanogenetic glycosides which can be removed by prolonged leaching.

. This method was used by the Aborigines.

Effects:

Signs and Symptoms:

- . Posterior paralysis,
- . Recumbency,
- . Muscle tremor,
- . Depression,

Health and Production Problems:

- . Do not allow dogs to eat these nuts,

Treatment:

- . Animals seem to recover in 12 – 24 hours,
- . Medication for joint pain,
- . See Vet.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Be aware of potential stock problems.

Comments:

- . Small to large evergreen trees with rounded crowns.
- . Leaves are toothed, glossy and dark green, with smooth or serrated margins, in whorls around the stem.
- . Young pinkish leaves from some spp are cyanogenetic, but this becomes less as the leaves mature.

- . Tiny flowers in drooping racemes, in spring, white to pink or purple, with four tepals.
- . The fruit is in very hard, woody shells contain one or two seeds, in autumn.
- . Only two of this species are used as a valuable food crop. The other members of the species are regarded as poisonous, or inedible.
- . Other members of this species contain cyanogenetic glycosides, which can be removed by leaching for a long time. Used by the indigenous people. (Aborigines).



Picture: *Macadamia spp* wikipedia

Further Reading:

- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981.
- . McKenzie. Veterinary Clinical Toxicology. 2000.
- . wikipedia