

Nicotiana spp

N. megalosiphon, *N. velutina*,

Common name:

Wild tobacco

Palatability to Livestock:

Seldom eaten.

Toxicity to Goats:

Moderate risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Sheep and cattle, also domestic pets.

Poisonous Principle:

- . Nicotine, nor-nicotine,
- . Pyridine alkaloids.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Incoordination,
- . Unwilling to move,
- . Sometimes trembling,
- . Collapse.

Health and Production Problems;

- . Animals which go down on the brisket may survive if left alone, as toxins are quickly eliminated from the body.
- . There may be diarrhoea and dilated pupils prior to death.
- . Affected stock should be allowed to rest and recuperate, if still alive after 16 hours, they usually survive.
- . Post mortem shows internal haemorrhaging.

Treatment;

- . Do not allow traveling stock access to fresh plants if other feed is scarce.
- . Do not drive hard, during or after occurrence of this feed.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Achieved by grazing management.

Comments:

- . An annual herb growing from a rosette, with thin, broad, pointed, green leaves, and an upright flower stalk, to a metre tall.
- . (There are two introduced species and about ten others growing in Australia. All native species are annuals, and must be considered to have toxic properties.)
- . Flowers are white, very long and trumpet-like, with 5 lobes to the flowers, in autumn and spring.
- . Found in inland Queensland, northern NSW and the NT.
- . Usually in open forest, cleared gidgee or brigalow scrubs.
- . *N. velutina* has larger, thicker leaves, and is much more hairy, and the flowers are short trumpet-shaped, with curved seeds/



Picture: *N. megalosiphon* Qld DPI *N. megalosiphon*

References;

- . Dowling and McKenzie. Poisonous Plants. 1993.
- . Everist. . Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981.
- . Henry, Hall, Jordan, Milson, Scheffe and Silcock. Pasture Plants of Southern Inland Queensland. 1995
- . McBarron. Poisonous Plants, Handbook. 1983.
- . Wilson. Some Plants are Poisonous. 1997

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