

Erythroxylum coco

Common name:

Coco leaf, Cocaine,

Palatability to Livestock:

Moderate.

Toxicity to Goats:

Not known to be toxic.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Not known to be toxic to livestock.

Poisonous Principle:

. Pyridine-based alkaloid, cocaine.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Initial euphoria,
- . Rapid mood changes,
- . Hallucinations, paranoia, death.

Health and Production Problems;

Be aware of potential problems.

Treatment;

See Vet or Doctor.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Declared a “Noxious Weed” in most states.
- . Local Authorities must be advised.

Comments:

- . A native of tropical South America.
- . A small tree or shrub, to 2.5 metres high.
- . Leaves are dark green, alternate, with a prominent mid-rib.
- . Flowers are yellow/green and bell shaped.
- . Slow to establish, with a deep root system.
- . Once established they become very hardy.
- . Growth is affected by the climate, especially the temperature.
- . Not a weed in the accepted sense in Australia, but is “Declared” because of its addictive drug content.



Pictures: *Erythroxylum coco*



Picture: Wikipedia

Further Reading:

- . Parsons and Cuthbertson.
Noxious Weeds of Australia. 1999