

Myoporum acuminatum

Common name:

Boobialla, Strichnine bush,
Water bush,

Palatability to Livestock:

Moderate, at times.

Toxicity to Goats:

Moderate risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Toxic to sheep and cattle.

Poisonous Principle:

. Furanosesquiterpenes,
. Ngaione.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

. Drowsy, depressed,
. Arched back, laboured breathing,
. Soft swelling under the jaw,
. Jaundice, and photosensitization.
. In humans, kidney failure, damage to heart muscle, retention of fluid.

Health and Production Problems;

. Death from liver failure, within days of first onset.

Treatment;

. No treatment.
. Be aware of potential stock problems.

Integrated Control Strategy:

. Control by grazing, and pasture management.

Comments:

. A shrub growing to several metres high.
. Some spp grow twisted stems along the ground.
. Alternate leaves are pale green, shiny and slightly fleshy, tapered at both ends.

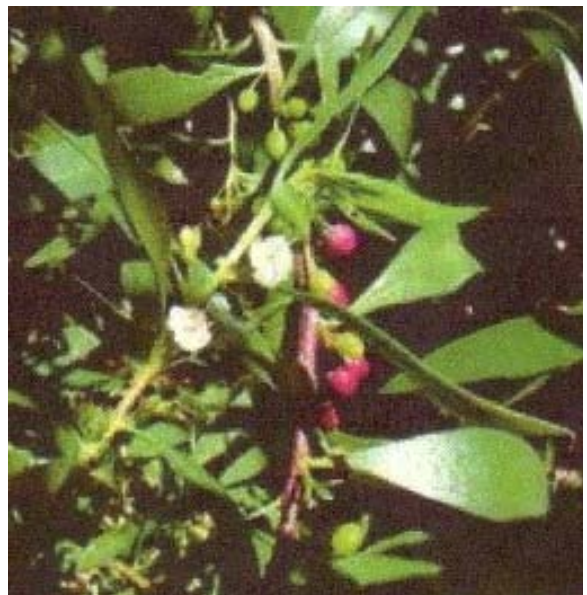
. Bell-shaped flowers are white or pale cream, sometimes with spots, growing in clusters on slender stalks.

. Berry shaped fruits are dull purple when ripe.

. This spp is found in Queensland and NSW, from the coast to the inland. Growing on sand dunes, mangrove swamps or in scrubland.

. This plant is normally unpalatable to stock.

. Livestock should not be given access to this plant when under stress.



Picture: *Myoporum acuminatum* Alice Springs TC

Further Reading:

. Everist. Poisonous Plants. 1981
. Dowling and McKenzie. Poisonous Plants. Qld DPI. 1993
. Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000
. Wilson. Some Plants are Poisonous. 1997.