

Raphanus raphanistrum

Common name:

Wild radish, Jointed charlock,

Palatability to Livestock:

High at all stages.

Toxicity to Goats:

Low risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Potentially toxic to sheep and cattle.

Poisonous Principle:

- . Indoles,
- . Nitriles,
- . Nitrates,
- . Thiocyanates,
- . Isothiocyanates,
- . Non-protein amino acids.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Pneumonia syndrome.
- . Liver damage and photosensitization.
- . Respiratory distress.
- . Goitre and digestive disturbances.
- . Anaemia.

Health and Production Problems;

- . Associated with abortion in cattle.
- . Gives a mustard smell to milk.

Treatment;

- . Iodine drench or iodine salt licks.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Good fodder for goats, preventing flowering.
- . Prevent seeding, slash, cultivate, wick wipe.
- . Use Group C or I, plants may be resistant to Group B, C, F.
- . Declared a "Noxious Weed: in parts of NSW, SA, WA.

- . Long lived seed bank, for up to six years, which can germinate at any time, usually late autumn to late spring.

Comments:

- . An annual or biennial herb, similar to *Brassica* group, usually no toxic effects.
- . Basal leaves are formed in a rosette, and have a strong turnip odour, leaves are deeply divided into coarse lobes, the last one being very large, and covered with hairs.
- . Flowers have four petals, white or pale lilac, in panicles on stems arising from rosette, in winter to summer.
- . Native to Europe, found in all states, a weed of cultivation.
- . Seed is allelopathic to cereal crops.



Pictures: *Raphanus raphanistrum*

Picture: Simmonds.

Pic: AGDEX

Further Reading:

- . AGDEX 647.
- . Everist. Poisonous Plants in Australia. 1981.
- . Lamp and Collett. Field Guide to Weeds in Australia. 1979.
- . Parsons and Cuthbertson. Noxious Weeds in Australia. 2001
- . Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000