



HELIOTROPE TOXICITY IN SHEEP



WILL IT AFFECT YOU?

The Facts:

- Heliotrope, also referred to as potato weed or blue weed is a summer sowing annual herb that thrives on disturbed, bare or open, cultivated ground.
- Seeds germinate in warm, moist conditions after each late spring or summer rain and growth is prolific where seedlings are not shaded and there is no competition from perennial plants.
- Heliotrope contains toxins known as pyrrolizidine alkaloids. These toxins are present at all stages of growth and in all parts of the plant including the seed.
- When heliotrope is eaten the absorbed pyrrolizidine alkaloids form secondary compounds that remain in and damage the liver.
- One of the secondary effects of heliotrope poisoning in sheep is copper toxicity.
- Liver damage caused by heliotrope leads to abnormally high uptake of copper by the liver.
- Under stressful conditions (transport, yarding, lactation, etc) the stored copper may be released suddenly from the liver causing massive destruction of red blood cells that result in jaundice, red-brown discolouration in the urine (red-water) and often death.

Solution: Weather Shield – Sheep + Molybdenum

- Molybdenum forms an insoluble complex with the copper, which prevents the copper from being absorbed.

Weather Shield Loose Lick Supplements.

A range of weather-resistant vitamin and mineral loose lick supplements specifically formulated for cattle, sheep, horses and alpacas.

- Provide essential salt and other vital minerals and vitamins that are crucial to maintaining a healthy animal.
- Weather resistant.
- Cost effective.
- Scientifically formulated.



For further information contact:

Dr Geoff Irish - Nutritionist & Technical Sales Manager

Ph: 03 9794 7166 Fax: 03 9706 7265 - Mob: 0428 588 061

Email: sales@propharma.com.au - Web: www.propharma.com.au

Propharma

AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.