# Myoporum deserti

#### Common name:

Ellangowan poison bush, Dogwood, Turkey bush, Emu 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;

- . Depression, arched back in sheep,
- . Bottle jaw,
- . Laboured respiration,
- . Jaundice,
- . Photosensitization.

Health and Production Problems; Death from liver failure within days.

#### *Treatment:*

Be aware of potential stock problems.

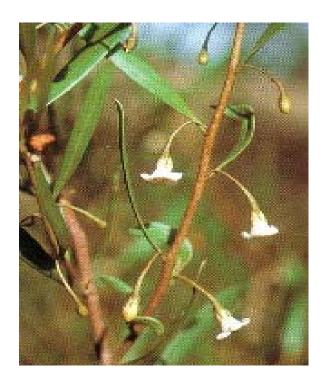
### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

- . Deny hungry stock access to the plant.
- . Traveling stock not used to the plant are the most affected.
- . Control achieved by grazing management.

#### **Comments:**

- . A dense shrub growing to about a metre high.
- . Branches are thin and grey-brown.
- . Leaves are bitter and burning to the taste, in various shapes and sizes, alternate, thick in texture, and tapered to a tip.

- . Bell shaped flowers are white, appearing singly or in clusters of two to three, in the forks of leaves.
- . Flowers appearing in winter.
- . The fruits are round, ripening to yellow.
- . Occurs in all mainland states, mainly in inland areas.
- . If livestock are introduced to this plant gradually, they may tolerate reasonable amounts in their diet.
- . Travelling stock seem to be most at risk from this plant.



Picture: Myoporum deserti Qld DPI

### References;

- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981
- . Dowling and McKenzie,

Poisonous Plants. Qld DPI. . 1993.

. Simmonds, Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000