

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT
FOR THESE TOXIC
PLANTS IN OKANOGAN
COUNTY!**



POISON IVY



POISON OAK



COCKLEBUR



BRACKEN FERN



**WATER
HEMLOCK**



**RUSSIAN
KNAPWEED**



POISON HEMLOCK



**JOHNSON AND
SUDAN GRASS**



**EARLY YELLOW
LOCOWEED**



HOARY ALYSSUM



LUPINE



ST. JOHNSWORT



BLACK HENBANE



COMMON TANSY



SCOTCH BROOM



DEATH CAMAS



**YELLOW SWEET
CLOVER**



**YELLOW
STARHISTLE**



LOW LARKSPUR

**OTHER TOXIC PLANTS
(NOT PICTURED)**

- ◆ Arrowgrass
- ◆ Black Locust tree
- ◆ Black Nightshade
- ◆ Bouncing bet
- ◆ Choke cherries
- ◆ Corydalis
- ◆ Croton
- ◆ Elderberry
- ◆ False indigo
- ◆ Field horsetail
- ◆ Hemp Dogbane
- ◆ Horsetail or Scouring rush
- ◆ Japanese Yew
- ◆ Jimsonweed
- ◆ Lady's thumb
- ◆ Locoweed
- ◆ Milk-vetchs
- ◆ Mountain thermopsis
- ◆ Mustards & Mushrooms
- ◆ Oak brush (shinnery & scrub)
- ◆ Oleaner trimmings (pink & white)
- ◆ Pigweed
- ◆ Ponderosa Pine Needles
- ◆ Ragwort or Groundsel
- ◆ Showy milkweed
- ◆ Snow-on-the-mountain
- ◆ Tall Larkspur
- ◆ White snakeroot

EDUCATION

Education leads to **UNDERSTANDING** and **UNDERSTANDING** leads to **Coordinated Weed Management** utilizing site specific methods.

- ◆ Toxic plants, shrubs, and weeds are present everywhere. With education, careful attention and good management, you can prevent them from causing problems with your livestock.
- ◆ Plants contain a large number of biologically active chemicals. Some plants produce adverse health effects following exposure. The onset of these adverse effects can be quite sudden or take some time to develop.
- ◆ Ingestion of a toxic plant is the number one route of poisoning in animals. If given the choice animals will avoid ingesting these plants. Animals will only eat these plants when nutritious vegetation is not present.

PROCEDURES FOR LIVESTOCK POISONING

If you suspect poisoning, call a veterinarian immediately. If death has occurred, examine stomach contents for consumed herbage. Identify the poisonous plants. Consult your area plant specialist or send a sample of the plant material to a University in your state.

SUMMARY

- ◆ Toxic plants may be present in many native pastures, but livestock losses may vary considerably.
- ◆ A plant may be poisonous only at certain stages of growth, or otherwise harmless.
- ◆ During periods of scarce grazing, livestock may be forced to eat poisonous plants.
- ◆ Toxic plants may contribute to the death of an animal already suffering from malnutrition or an unidentified illness.
- ◆ Sometimes livestock are more susceptible to plant poisoning in the spring. Why? Weeds and certain toxic plants often start growing before grasses do.
- ◆ **PREVENTION** is the best way to control poisonings.
- ◆ Prevention of livestock losses depend on a good knowledge of Toxic plants and the seasons in which they are the most dangerous.
- ◆ Most toxic plants are dangerous only when consumed in large quantities. Even then they may be harmless at certain times of the year.

KEY FACTORS

- ◆ **Timing, when in the year you turn-out live-stock. This is CRITICAL!**
- ◆ **Stage of growth in plants**
- ◆ **Amount of Toxic plant consumed**

TOXIC PLANTS TO LIVESTOCK

Protect
Your
Animals!!



Okanogan County
Noxious Weed Control Board
P.O. Box 791
Okanogan, WA 98840
Phone: 509-422-7165
noxiousweeds@co.okanogan.wa.us
Web Site: www.okanogancounty.org/nw

CONTROL MEASURES PRACTICE GOOD MANAGEMENT!

DEVELOP A TOXIC WEED CONTROL PLAN!

- Remove livestock from grazing area until all toxic plants have been eradicated.
- Eradication options are mowing, burning, cultivating, or applying a site specific herbicide before turning livestock into area.
- Provide an adequate supply of salt and minerals for grazing livestock.
- Make certain that animals have ample wholesome forage.
- Avoid pasturing livestock on drought-stricken, over-grazed rangeland.

REMEMBER!

EARLY DETECTION AND RAPID CONTROL IS THE BEST DEFENSE AGAINST TOXIC WEEDS THAT CAN HARM YOU OR YOUR LIVESTOCK!

“The West abounds in shrubs, grasses, and trees that can kill, cripple, cause abortion, and in many ways interfere with livestock production.”

“While humans can avoid TOXIC plants, animals often cannot.”

WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND MANAGEMENT!