

# Poisonous plant



## Paterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*)

Noxious Weeds Display sponsored by NIWAC  
(Northern Inland Weeds Advisory Committee)



Paterson's curse is widespread throughout many parts of New South Wales. It's valued by bee farmers, but causes problems on grazing properties.



Paterson's curse contains a number of alkaloids, at least one of which acts on the livers of grazing animals causing condition loss and in some cases, death.

Pigs and horses are most affected by continued exposure to Paterson's curse. Their stomachs cannot fully process the plant material, resulting in chronic liver damage. Sheep, goats and cattle are affected but to a lesser extent.

Paterson's curse also causes hay fever and skin irritation for some humans.

**Protect your animals from Paterson's curse!**

