

The symptoms of crotalaria poisoning in sheep and goats are similar to those observed in cattle. The period of illness, however, is somewhat shorter.

Hogs often die suddenly of gastric hemorrhage in acute cases of poisoning. Chronic cases may develop two to four months after the animals have had access to the plant. Loss of appetite, general unthriftiness, weakness and occasionally anemia occur. Hogs on feed fail to gain weight.

Horses and mules have been known to become affected with crotalaria poisoning as long as nine months after contact with the plant. The first period of illness usually is marked by a gastro-intestinal disturbance (colic). Usually there is a diarrhea and congestion and yellowish discoloration of the visible mucous membranes. Intestinal movements can be heard at a distance of 15 to 20 feet from the animal. Symptoms of extreme stupor and depression for a period of two or three days are interspersed with periods of two to six weeks during which the animal appears improved. During periods of severe illness affected animals walk listlessly, in circles, and stumble into various objects; they also push or lean against stationary objects and often meet sudden death by falling into awkward positions or becoming entangled in fences so that they cannot extricate themselves. The usual period of illness is three to four months, although some animals live much longer. During this period the general condition of the animal deteriorates and emaciation occurs. Death occurs as the result of cardiac failure.

Chickens and turkeys, particularly poults, often are poisoned by eating the seed or green plant. Affected birds become listless and droopy; often there is diarrhea, darkness or paleness of the comb. Anemia and emaciation usually occur if the period of illness is longer than two weeks.

Prevention.—Although poisoning by crotalaria may occur at any time during the year, it is most frequent when this plant is green and succulent while other forage is dry and unattractive. It should be considered extremely hazardous to permit livestock of any kind to come in contact with this plant. There is some controversy among laymen as to the toxicity of *C. spectabilis*, as animals have been known to eat it without inducing illness. Animals having continual contact with the plant sometimes eat small quantities throughout the season and in this way develop a tolerance to the toxic principle. Some animals will not eat