Poisonous Plants on the Range Hold Important Place Among Causes of Stock Fatalities

George H. Hart

Mice losses of livestock are constantly occurring while grazing over the large cattle ranges, particularly in the eastern portion of the state, a fact that is often overlooked. There are six major categories of plants that are poisonous and that cause losses in cattle. Among these, tobacco hawkweed, milk thistle, poison hemlock, and lion's bane are the most common and cause the most losses.

Tobacco Hawkweed (Lobelia tenuissima) is a common weed that is found on dry ranges and in pastures. The plant has small, narrow leaves and small flowers, and it is easily mistaken for other plants. The toxic principle is called lobelian, and it affects the nervous system and causes convulsions and death.

Milk Thistle (Silybum marianum) is another common weed that is found on dry ranges and in pastures. The plant has large, spiny leaves and small, white flowers. The toxic principle is called silybin, and it affects the liver and causes liver failure and death.

Poison Hemlock (Conium maculatum) is a common weed that is found on dry ranges and in pastures. The plant has large, spiny leaves and small, white flowers. The toxic principle is called coniine, and it affects the nervous system and causes convulsions and death.

Lion's Bane (Lewisia rediviva) is a common weed that is found on dry ranges and in pastures. The plant has small, spiny leaves and small, white flowers. The toxic principle is called lewisine, and it affects the nervous system and causes convulsions and death.

The specific deficiencies involved in these cases are not known, but it is believed that the deficiencies are related to the diet of the animal. The deficiencies may be caused by a lack of certain vitamins and minerals, or by a lack of certain nutrients in the food.

Irrigated Pastures And Livestock Parasites

Lamb and Goat Ewes on Artificial Pastures

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Nutritional Deficiencies in Dams Found to Be Cause of Deformities of "Acorn Calves"

"Acorn calves" are more common in the oak belt of the Sierra Nevada foothills than in the lower elevations. They may be expected in dry years when animals are kept on dry feed in the same areas throughout the year and spend a long time on dry feed. Deformity is more common in dry years when animals are kept on dry feed in the same areas throughout the year and spend a long time on dry feed.

"Acorn calves" are caused by a rather general impression that they are common in areas where acorns are too many during gestation. This is not true, but if acorns are the main ingredient of the diet they may prevent the formation or utilization of some essential food element and thus in producing acorn calves. Experimental work proved that the condition is due to nutritional deficiencies, particularly lack of niacin and pantothenic acid.

"Acorn calves" are caused by lack of niacin and pantothenic acid, which are essential for normal growth and development.

Deficient and non-deficient cows should be expected to produce fewer and fewer acorn calves.