

Poisonous plant



Darling pea (*Swainsona* spp.)

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



Darling pea and smooth Darling pea are similar, but the latter is more common and probably the most important in our part of the state.



Sheep, cattle and horses become "pea-struck" after extended grazing on this plant. In fact, they develop an addiction and will bypass good feed in their search for more pea. It causes the animals to become clumsy



and unsteady on their feet and to lose condition. *(NB worth noting that these species have often been used as ornamentals because of their attractive flowers etc.)*

Animals should not remain in pea-infested areas for any more than 4 weeks. Removal will usually see them return to normal health.

Alternatively, periods of heavy grazing will reduce the quantity of pea and therefore the risk to individual animals.

