

# **POISONOUS PLANTS of TURKEY**

## **WEEK 8**

# **POISONOUS PLANTS and ANIMALS**

**Wild animals,  
livestock and pets  
can be affected by  
poisonous plants.**

**Instinct of recognizing and avoiding poisonous plants is usually present in wild animals.**

**Therefore, this type of poisoning is very rare in natural life.**

# FARM ANIMALS

Poisoning occurs due to the fact that poisonous plants are located near / in the grazing area of the livestock or may be collected to be used as fodder in winter.

**Poisonings are more common, especially at the beginning or at the end of the vegetation period, where the number of edible grasses is low but poisonous plants are still present.**

# **POISONING IS MORE COMMON AMONG THE..**

**--- young / inexperienced animals,**

**--- alien breed animals compared to native  
breeds,**

**--- animals that have been newly bought and  
grazed in a new environment,**

- animals grazing in a new pasture,**
- drought victim animals,**
- animals grazing in herbicide or insecticide applied areas.**

**Unlike sheep, goats behave independently and the young goats are particularly likely to be exposed to such dangers.**



**According to the species of animals, the response to toxic plants may differ.**

**Differences in diet, physiological structure of digestive tract and nutrient profiles may cause this situation.**

**Ruminant animals (such as cattle, sheep, goats..) can dilute the poison due to a large anterior stomach section.**

Due to the microorganisms found in the rumen, the possibility of disintegration of orally taken herbal poisons is quite high.

On the contrary, sometimes this microbial transformation, may cause the formation of toxic compounds.

**Sensitivity to toxic plants varies according to specific detoxification mechanisms in animals.**

**Onion species (Allium sp.)  
cause anemia, particularly by  
affecting direct blood cells in  
cats, dogs and horses.**

**Kidneys may also be damaged by exposure to certain toxic substances during excretion of urine from the body. For example, oak and other oxalate containing plants..**

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**Some plants cause acute poisoning (sudden death), as in cyanogenetic glycosides containing plants..,**

**Some of the effects of  
pyrolizidine alkaloids  
occur in a long time  
(chronic poisoning).**

**Some plants also show teratogenic effects in animals; it causes malformations or death in the fetus.**

**In conclusion, poisonous plants cause significant financial losses in the countries where animal husbandry is common.**