



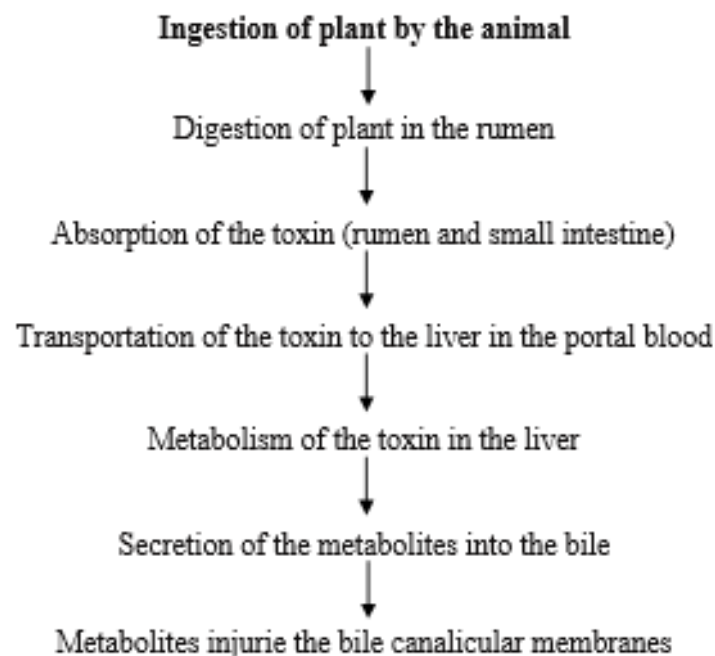
Lantana camara poisoning in animals: A brief overview

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Lantana poisoning in animals: Compared to *Bos indicus* cattle, *Bos taurus* cattle are more vulnerable to lantana poisoning. The occurrence ranges from isolated cases to significant epidemics during times of fodder shortage brought on by drought or flooding. Animals have been known to become ill from lantana poisoning while being transported from lantana-free areas to lantana-infested areas. Because afflicted instances from distant locations are rarely noticed by scientists and physicians, the recorded cases only represent a small portion of the overall issue.

Mechanism of toxicity





IV. Post-mortem lesions

Treatment: No specific antidote is available. Only symptomatic treatment need to be given:

- I. Stop further exposure of the animals to noxious weed.
- II. Keep the animal in a well shaded areas away from direct sunlight if photosensitization develops.
- III. Administer intravenously excessive amounts of glucose saline solution.
- IV. Give hepatoprotective agents to tone up the liver. Systematic studies on the effect of antihepatotoxic or hepatoprotective agents in lantana poisoning have not been done.
- V. Remove the toxic ruminal contents by rumenotomy.
- VI. Give saline purgatives to facilitate removal of gastro-intestinal contents.
- VII. Replace the ruminal contents with a suspension containing electrolytes, chaffed forage and rumen liquor from a healthy animal.
- VIII. Administer a single dose of activated charcoal (5 g/kg) to bind the toxin in the rumen and prevent further absorption. Lantana poisoned cattle can be successfully treated by giving 2.5 kg of powdered activated charcoal in 20 litres of multiple electrolyte solution by stomach tube while in sheep, 0.5 kg charcoal in four litres of fluid is enough.
- IX. Administer H₁ antihistaminics and antibiotics to take care of the photosensitization lesions and secondary bacterial infections.