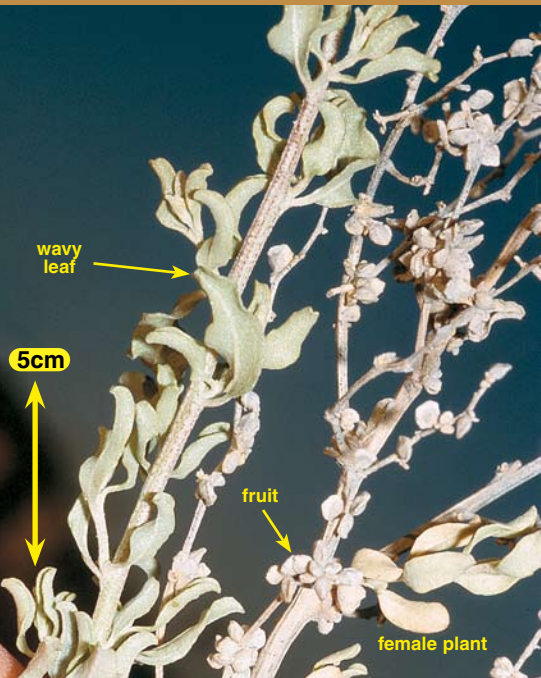


WAVY-LEAF SALTBUUSH

Atriplex undulata

S11
SHRUB



WAVY-LEAF SALTBUSSH

Atriplex undulata

Sustainable
Grazing on
Saline Land



SALTdeck Series

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S11

Family: Chenopodiaceae.

Description: Short-lived perennial shrub to 1 m high and up to 1.5 m wide. Stems both erect and low spreading. Low stems trailing on the ground may form roots. Leaves 0.5–2 cm long, occasionally to about 5 cm. Generally male and female flowers on separate plants (dioecious). Fruits round and soft containing one seed that matures in autumn.

Key features: Wavy (undulate) leaves (see photo) and stems that are both erect and spreading.

Value: Dense stands are a maintenance diet for sheep if good quality water and hay are available. Grazing value is higher when grown with an annual legume understorey. Low energy value but good crude protein. Leaves contain up to 28% salt so supplements (grain, pasture or hay) and good quality drinking water are essential.

Salinity and waterlogging tolerance: Grows on salt affected soils in areas receiving 250–500 mm rainfall. Not as tolerant to waterlogging as River Saltbush *Atriplex amnicola*.

Notes: Native of central Argentina. Establishes readily from seed but does not tolerate repeated heavy grazing in autumn. Readily grows from seed passed in animal faeces.

Reference: *Saltland Pastures in Australia*, Barrett-Lennard, 2003.

