

## **TECH SHEET:**

# Chicory

Chicory is a perennial forage herb with a large tap root, characterised by its high nutritional quality, and the potential to produce dry matter yields from spring to late autumn. It has proven to be an excellent source of feed for finishing stock.

Chicory produces a mass of leafy top growth and has a thick, deep taproot giving it excellent drought tolerance and the ability to source nutrients.

Chicory has exhibited a tolerance to acidic soils and for this reason has been successfully grown at a lower pH less than 5. Chicory will still remain productive if managed well. A higher pH greater than 5.5 is recommended though. In addition most farmers will sow chicory with a suitable ryegrass or mixed in with plantain.

Chicory has good disease resistance and insect tolerance and with appropriate grazing management can provide viable stands for more than 6 years if managed well.

Best time to plant is in spring in cooler areas, but equally establishes well early autumn. Appropriate paddock selection should be done along with a soil test, 2-3 months before ground cultivation.

Talk to the AGPRO staff in regards to the history of the paddock, possible weed problems, and any previous history of cropping.

#### Of note:

 Chicory must be rotationally grazed, if planted alone, therefore smaller and more accessible paddocks are needed. Planted with a suitable ryegrass is preferred.



- Chicory does not fix nitrogen therefore requires higher nutritional inputs for maximum growth potential.
- Chicory is best planted on deeper, well drained and fertile soils
- Chemical control of some broadleaf weeds can be difficult e.g. thistles. Contact the AGPRO staff for recommendations.
- Chicory can be dormant in the winter in colder parts of the country, and grazing of companion species in through these months must be done carefully to avoid damage to the plant in wet conditions.

AGPRO HORTICULTURE
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for technical assistance





#### **SUGGESTED SPRAY PROGRAMME**

The AGPRO programme below aims to give a guide on how to get the best "keep the crop clean" from weed control, taking care of pest issues, and making sure you get the best out of your crop.

#### STRAIGHT AFTER PLANTING PRIOR TO CROP EMERGENCE:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
,,	Pre-cultivation or directly after planting, prior to crop emerging	Clean out any small seedling weed	1.5-2L/ha	Check weed type / rates

### SUGGESTED PROGRAMME POST-EMERGENCE:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Flumetsulam	Apply to seedling weeds after Chicory has 2-3 leaves	Post-emergence knockdown of certain weeds	50-65g/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil
Grasidim	Apply to emerged grass weeds at 3-4 leaf stage of crop	Grass weed control	170-   330ml/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil

#### Notes:

All products mentioned above are registered under the ACVM Act 1997.



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