



## 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**  
**Freephone 0508 536 536**  
*for technical assistance*



# AGPRO DIRECT

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### SUGGESTED AGPRO SPRAY PROGRAMME

Make your paddock selection as early as possible, noting what weeds are present. We are happy to discuss the correct sprayout option, and to receive pictures from your smart phone, should you have problems ID the weeds. General rule of thumb is sprayout 8-10 weeks prior to planting.

#### PRIOR TO PLANTING WITH THE FINAL CULTIVATION:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Triflalin	With final cultivation	Early residual weed control	1.5-1.7L/ha	Provides early weed control

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

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Glyphosate 510	Prior crop emerging	Cleanup	1-1.5L/ha	Removes seedling weeds

#### SUGGESTED PROGRAMME POST EMERGENCE:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Flumetsulam	From 3-4 leaf stage	Control seedling weed	40-50g/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil
AGPRO Haloxfop	From 3-4 leaf stage	Control of any grass weed	500ml-1L/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil @ 1L/ha

#### TROUBLESOME WEEDS:

- AGPRO Bentazone can be used once the crop is established, more than 10-15cm in height and 6 months old. Specifically aimed at small thistle, chamomiles, cleavers, storksbill, redroot, chickweed, spurry, shepherds purse, thorn apple and smaller wild turnip. Ideally grass the paddock before the application.

**NB:** Do not mix any Bentazone formulations with Haloxfop. Make the applications separately.

- 2,4 DB work has shown that should thistles be a major problem in the the crop, after the crop is 6 months old, graze the chicory paddock down and then apply 2,4 DB at 3.5-5L/ha. Such weeds as cresses, nettle, plantains, annual thistles, small seedling dock will be controlled at this lighter rate.



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