

# CHICORY

## SIX POINT

### OVERVIEW

SIX POINT is a very perennial herb with a high persistency. It is a very drought tolerant option as a perennial pasture for temperate areas. SIX POINT possesses a very deep tap root which has been known to break mild hard pans and draw moisture from deep within the soil. This taproot allows it to hang on well and produce quality forage.

SIX POINT chicory is known to reduce parasites in sheep and cattle which may be attributed to the condensed tannins within the plant. Chicory contains 'lactones and lactucin' which are alkaloids and in combination with chicory's tannin content makes six point chicory an excellent inhibitor towards parasites, namely worms.

SIX POINT is known to contain between 10 – 35% crude protein and 95% digestibility. When included in a mix with lucerne has been known to alleviate cryptosporidiosis in lambs and to limit incidence of bloat in cattle.

SIX POINT can be sown as a mono crop as a specialist livestock finishing crop but in most regions it is more likely to be sown in a mix with grasses and clovers. Through local trials we have found sowing rates from 2 – 5kg/ha significantly enhance production as well as long term persistence.

Chicory persists from the crown of the original plant but will also establish from seed if allowed to flower or head. The stand may need to be slashed or crash grazed in order to make the plant go from reproduction back into a vegetative phase. Chicory will not grow as aggressively through winter but more than makes up for that through spring, summer and autumn.

- 5 + year perennial option if managed correctly
- High nutrient & energy levels
- Tolerant of strong grazing pressure
- Out of season finishing option
- Tolerant of acid and alkaline soils.
- Tolerant of water logging
- Has parasite inhibiting properties.



As we have experienced it is challenging to control the weeds in a MSP, therefore it is imperative to make sure the soil is well prepared in the years prior to sowing a stand of SIX POINT.

Local agronomists have found ways to keep stands clean of broadleaf weed however most recommendations are strictly off label and farmers using these methods do so at their own risk.