



## ROCKET FUEL FOR LIVESTOCK PERFORMANCE

### DESCRIPTION

A high yielding, leafy chicory showing upright growth, fast establishment, and good drought tolerance due to its one metre long tap root. Chico is noted for its strong summer, autumn growth, providing high quality summer forage. Being very high in energy and minerals, Chico has very high livestock performance potential. It is diamondback moth and white butterfly tolerant.

### SUITABILITY / USE

Chico can be used as a specialist and flexible multi-graze summer forage crop for finishing stock, and maximizing milk production, or included as a component of pasture mixes at a sowing rate of 1-2kgs/ha. It is suited for use with all livestock types, and for use throughout the country, but particularly in summer-dry regions as a summer safe forage.

### BENEFITS

- ▶ Very high quality, high yielding summer forage crop
- ▶ High in metabolisable energy and minerals
- ▶ Very high livestock performance potential
- ▶ Improved drought tolerance due to one metre tap root
- ▶ Fast establishing and flexible grazing management
- ▶ Leafy, succulent and palatable (stock take to it readily)
- ▶ Tolerant of insect pests
- ▶ Available in 25kg and 8kg packs

### AGRONOMIC TRAITS

| PERSISTENCE | STOCK PERFORMANCE POTENTIAL* | SOWING RATE (kgs/ha) | SOWING DEPTH (mm) | WINTER ACTIVITY | GROWTH PEAK   |
|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1-3 YEARS   | 9                            | 6-8                  | 10                | MEDIUM          | SPRING-AUTUMN |

\*1 = low, 9 = high

### PERFORMANCE

**Higher stocking rate, higher liveweight gain, higher carcass weights.**

Alliance recently ran two lamb live weight gain trials in Cust (harsh dryland site) and Gore, in conjunction with Cropmark. In the trials, stocking rate was adjusted based on feed on offer for each feed option, with the lambs fed ad-lib.

**Chico had higher stocking rates, higher live weight gains, more lambs graded prime, with higher carcass weights.**

#### Alliance lamb live weight gain comparison trial – Gore, Feb/Mar 2011 (28 days)

|                                | Old Pasture | New Pasture | Swedes | Chico |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Stocking rate                  | 16.7        | 33.3        | 8.3    | 37.5  |
| Live weight gain (g/hd/day)    | 296         | 350         | 364    | 371   |
| % of lambs 'Prime' (> 44kg LW) | 76%         | 80%         | 78%    | 84%   |

#### Alliance lamb live weight gain comparison trial – Cust, Feb - April 2011 (2 months)

|         | LWG (kg) | Av LWG (g/hd/day) | Carcass Wgt (kg) | Yield (%) |
|---------|----------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Chicory | 8.6      | 157.1             | 20.4             | 50        |
| Pasture | 7.9      | 144.2             | 18               | 46        |
| Rape    | 4.6      | 84.7              | 18.81            | 52        |