

CHICORY

(*Cichorium intybus*)



Chicory is a perennial which reproduces by seed; it is also known locally as wild succory and blue daisy. This native of Europe is common across the United States with the exception of the Deep South. It may be found along roadsides, in pastures and meadows, on vacant city lots, and other waste places.

Initial plant growth is a rosette which resembles dandelion, having deeply scalloped leaves. Sometimes these leaves are cultivated and harvested for salads or greens, since chicory is a close relative of endive. Later the rosette sends up an erect stem which may reach to 7 feet high. The stem (2) is smooth and much-branched in the upper portions. The hollow stem center is filled with a bitter-tasting milky sap.

Leaves on the lower portion of chicory retain the dandelion shape, but upper leaves are small, tongue-like and sit directly on the stem.

Flower heads are borne on stalks which grow from the axils of leaves. Each flower head is made up of many tiny disc flowers (3), each with its single yellow petal. The conspicuous blue petals are called ray flowers; they are sterile and produce no seeds. The ray flowers open in morning and evening, and close over the disc flowers during the day.

Seeds are dark brown and wedge shaped; they are $\frac{1}{8}$ inch long and have a row of bristlelike scales along the top (4).

The root is a white fleshy taproot (1) which grows deeply. It is sometimes cultivated, harvested, dried and used as an addition to or substitute for coffee.

One or two sprayings of 2,4-D will selectively kill this weed. Three or four mowings per year likewise will kill it. It should not be permitted to drop seed.

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How to Calibrate Turf Sprayers

(from page 11)

and turf advisors should be consulted for their recommendations before a spraying program is started. If their recommendations are followed faithfully, your spraying program will be successful. If not, the best sprayer made cannot do the job for which it was intended.

Another important point to consider is the choice of spraying equipment. Be sure the sprayer has sufficient capacity to carry out your full program. Make sure it has a tank and piping system which are protected against the ravages of modern day chemicals. Be certain it has a good filter or ample capacity; plugged nozzles will upset your rate of application. Be doubly sure it has a pump that can withstand abrasive and corrosive chemicals you will be using. It should have an accurate and reliable pressure gauge and pressure regulator or relief valve. Make sure also that the boom is protected inside against rust and corrosion.

Buy your sprayer from a reliable source, preferably your turf equipment supplier. He has access to factory warranty and service programs which can be very helpful. Take good care of your spraying equipment; keep it in good condition. Periodically check nozzle capacities. Follow closely the recommendations of your turf advisors, and your spraying program will be successful.

Elm Beetles Scavenge Kansas

Elm leaf beetles reportedly defoliated Chinese and hybrid elm trees throughout Kansas this summer. Dr. Hugh E. Thompson of the Kansas State University Extension Service said leaves chewed by the beetles dropped to the ground. "Fully grown elm beetles are crawling down the trunks of trees and going into tree crevices or into grass and other hiding places," he noted.

Thompson added that the insect has three or four generations in Kansas. The second generation is working at present and