

HERB SEED TREATMENT

Superstrike[®]
herb

Forage herbs such as chicory and plantain are now widely utilised in pastoral farming systems. Protecting young vulnerable seedlings during the establishment phase with seed treatment is considered best practice to help maximise seedling emergence and survival.

SUPERSTRIKE[®] HERB

Superstrike[®] herb seed treatment is a filmcote treatment that combines insecticide and fungicide protection for establishing chicory and plantain seedlings.

ADDITIVE	PEST AND DISEASE PROTECTION	BENEFIT
Systemic insecticide	Springtail	Above and below ground protection during the first six weeks after planting.
Contact fungicide	'Damping off' (<i>Pythium, Fusarium</i>)	Protects the root zone from 'Damping off' fungal pathogens in the first three to four weeks of establishment.
Bird repellent		The green coloured treatment and the fungicide component have properties that help deter birds from eating surface applied seed.

WHERE SHOULD SUPERSTRIKE HERBS BE USED?

Superstrike herb seed treatment is recommended for all chicory and plantain seed sown in pasture mixes or specialist herb mixes. Superstrike treated seed should be sown at the same rate as untreated seed. Livestock should not graze Superstrike treated herbs in the first six weeks after sowing.

TRIAL RESULTS

CHICORY SEEDLING DEVELOPMENT UNDER SPRINGTAIL PRESSURE

This trial measured the effect of Springtail on Superstrike treated and untreated chicory seed after Springtail were confined in cages for 5 days. Superstrike treated chicory seed showed a significant increase in plant dry matter, a significant decrease in plant damage and a significant decrease in the percentage of live Springtail remaining in comparison to untreated seed.

Trial conducted by AgResearch, Ruakura

ASSESSMENT	SUPERSTRIKE	UNTREATED
Plant dry matter (mg)/plant	1.9	1.1
Plant damage score*	0.86	3.02
% Live insects	6	48

* 0= No damage; 4= Heavy feeding



Cows grazing on Superstrike[®] treated Puna II chicory in Waikato.