



CHICORY

BOTANICAL NAME: *Cichorium intybus*

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? A bushy perennial herb that reproduces only by seed. It has a parsnip-like root and bottom leaves that resemble those of a dandelion. The stem leaves are very small and the plant can grow to 6 feet. The plant is easily recognized by its sky blue colored flowers which open and close daily. Chicory is also known by several other names: blue daisy, blue dandelion, blue sailors, coffeeweed, cornflower and wild endive.

WHERE DOES IT GROW? This plant was brought to the U.S. from the Mediterranean for use as a salad green and a coffee substitute. It's cultivation in North America began in the 1700's and ended in about 1950 when it became more economical to import Chicory. The roots of Chicory are roasted, ground and used as a caffeine free coffee substitute. Chicory thrives besides roads and highways. It can also be found in lawns, pastures and fields.

WHEN DOES IT BLOOM? Flowers begin appearing in May and June and continue through September. The flowers open in the morning and close around noon each day. Each flower is only open for a single day.

HOW DO I CONTROL IT?

➤ NON-CHEMICAL CONTROL

- If plants are established, the flower heads can be cut and destroyed before they can spread the seeds.
- Water and fertilizer can improve soil conditions encouraging the growth of grasses.
- Digging is a successful control for Chicory, but mowing is not effective.



➤ CHEMICAL CONTROL

- Treatment with 2, 4-D and dicamba when the plant is very young have proven useful.

NOTE: This plant is not considered noxious in the State of Idaho or in Kootenai County

Want more information or herbicide suggestions? Contact:

Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control
10905 N. Ramsey Road
Hayden, ID 83835
208-446-1290 / TTY 208-446-2145
kcnoxiousweeds@kcgov.us or www.kcweeds.com

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