

How should the Chicory and Red clover be grazed?

This crop is a very high protein crop with chicory and red clover both recording CP of above 20%. But they are fairly low in DM especially this year. Therefore it is essential that a grass run back is provided or access to a source of fibre such as haylage bales. Stocking density is about 20 lambs/acre and they will block graze the crop. They will graze each block for about a week. The area will be split into 4 blocks therefore a 28 day rotation will be created.

How winter hardy is Swift?

Swift is a hybrid between Forage Rape and Kale. Therefore it has a good winter hardiness score. It is capable of growing at temperatures of 4°C which is very low for any plant and is frost tolerant. It also has a regrowth potential. The crop currently has a DM yield of 6-7tDM/ha and if strip grazed and back fenced would potentially produce a regrowth of 1-2tDM/ha in February/March. This may not seem a great deal but it would be significant during these months before grass and clover has started.

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