

# FARM EFFICIENCY WITH MULTI-SPECIES SWARDS

**Multi-species swards (MSS) are a sustainable source of high-quality forage.**

**As well as producing high yields of quality forage, sowing a MSS can lead to a reduced N fertiliser requirement, increased animal performance health.**

**Ecotain™ is a natural, environmentally friendly forage solution to mitigate N leaching from the urine patch.**

**Research from New Zealand has shown Ecotain™ can significantly reduce N leaching from the urine patch by up to 89% depending on sward blend\***

**Ecotain™ is included in Agway Herbal Ley.**

## **How to establish a multi-species sward**

- Multi-species swards can be sown from late spring through to early autumn when soil temperatures are ~10°C.
- As with any forage crop, optimum levels of soil pH, P and K should be established before sowing. Soil fertility requirements are similar for a grass sward and a MSS.
- Once done correctly, any of the conventional reseeding methods can be used for sowing a MSS. Spraying off the old sward, ploughing etc... is the most effective way to establish an even MSS with less weeds.
- Careful rolling of the seedbed is vital to ensure good soil to seed contact especially for the small seeds of clover, plantain and chicory.
- Post-emergence herbicide cannot be used on a MSS. Where weeds are of concern it may be best to direct drill into a sprayed off stubble to avoid germination of dormant weeds in the seedbed.

