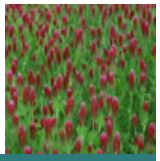
Legume
Clover, Crimson
Trifolium incarnatum

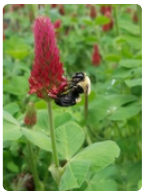


PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 7 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

A cool season annual with a short, upright growth habit. Popular in warmer regions of the Northeast. Shade tolerant. Does not reliably overwinter. Good forage producer, good N-fixer. Showy red blooms, good for pollinators. Host to some problem nematodes. Inoculate the seed with appropriate Rhizobium spp.; cross-inoculates with red or white clover. Mixes well with barley, annual ryegrass, cereal rye. Larger seeded and better seedling vigor than most clovers. Earlier-seeded, more fall growth, earlier spring bloom than hairy vetch. Slower residue breakdown of stems and N release than vetch.


Clover Crimson - Mirsky Lab [2020]


Clover Crimson - Aaron Sande [2020]


Clover Crimson - Bjorkman [2020]

GOALS

Growing Window	Medium
Nitrogen Scavenging	●●○○○
Lasting Residue	●●○○○
Prevent Fall Soil Erosion	●○○○○
Prevent Spring Soil Erosion	●●●●○
Forage Harvest Value	●●●●●
Nitrogen Fixation	●●●●●
Penetrates Plow Pan	●○○○○
Reduces Surface Compaction	●●●○○
Improve Soil Organic Matter	●●●○○
Increase Soil Aggregation	●●●○○
Good Grazing	●●●●○
Pollinator Food	●●●●○

WEEDS

Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds	●○○○○
Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds	●●○○○
Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds	●●●○○
Persistence	●○○○○
Volunteer Establishment	●○○○○

ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

Low Fertility	●●●○○
Drought	●●●○○
Heat	●●●○○
Shade	●●●●○
Flood	●●○○○
Salinity	●○○○○

Legume

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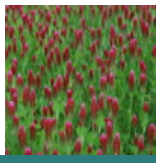

PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 7 DATASET

Growth Traits

Duration	Annual
Zone Use	Common
Shape And Orientation	Erect, Semi-Erect
Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr)	3500 - 5500
Soil Texture	Coarse, Fine, Medium
Soil pH	5.5 - 7.2
Soil Moisture Use	Medium
Hessian Fly Free Date?	No
Nitrogen Accumulation (Lbs/A/Yr)	70 - 150
Ease Of Establishment	
Establishes Quickly	
Early Spring Growth	
Flowering Trigger	Vernalization
Root Depth	Medium
Inoculant Type	Crimson Clover, Berseem Clover

Soil Drainage

- Very Poorly Drained
- Poorly Drained
- **Somewhat Poorly Drained**
- **Moderately Well Drained**
- **Well Drained**
- Excessively Drained
- Saturated Muck
- **Well Drained Muck**

Planting

Seeds Per Lb	149800
Seed Price Per Lb	$$$
Base Seeding Rate (Lbs/A)	10 - 20
Drilled Depth	0.25" - 0.5"
Can Aerial Seed?	No
Can Frost Seed?	No
Min Germination Temp (°F)	42

Termination

Tillage At Vegetative	
Tillage At Flowering	
Freezing At Vegetative	
Freezing At Flowering	
Chemical At Vegetative	
Chemical At Flowering	
Mow At Flowering	
Roller-Crimp At Flowering	

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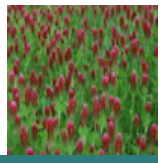
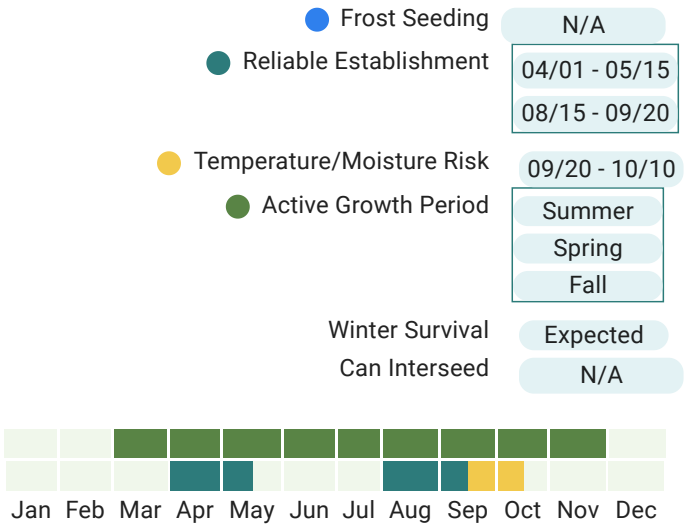


PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 7 DATASET

Planting and Growth Windows



Extended Comments

Pollinators: Attracts bumblebee queens and honeybees. One of the earliest flowering clovers. Delay termination until at least 30-50% bloom to maximize value to pollinators.

Goals: In USDA hardiness zone 7, there is rarely time between row crop harvest and the onset of winter to establish a crimson clover stand sufficient to protect against soil erosion in the fall-winter.

Nematodes: Excellent host for root-knot nematode.

Termination: If using herbicides to terminate use a tank mixture (e.g., glyphosate + dicamba or 2,4-d); do not rely on glyphosate alone. Freezing during the flowering stage unlikely.

Forage and Grazing: Failure to overwinter reliably in USDA hardiness zone 5 and less may limit utility for grazing and forage harvest unless planted in mid to late summer for winter termination.

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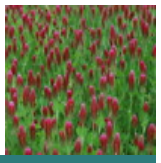

PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 7 DATASET

References & Resources

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Fall Cover Crops, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension
Cover Crops and Green Manure Crops – Benefits, Selection, and Use, Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension
Choosing Cover Crops, University of Massachusetts Extension
Cover Crops – What a Difference a Few Weeks Makes, Cornell University Cooperative Extension
Cover Crops for Conservation Tillage Systems, Penn State Extension
Using Flowering Cover Crops for Native Pollinating Bee Conservation, Penn State Extension
Special Cover Crop Control Considerations, Penn State Extension