Legume

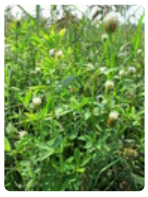
Clover, Berseem

Trifolium alexandrinum

PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Also known as Egyptian clover. Used as a summer annual in the Northeast US. Least cold-hardy clover. Does not do well on droughty soils due to its shallow root system. Excellent N producer. High biomass and N production potential. Inoculate the seed with appropriate Rhizobium spp. Good in mixes with other species that winter-kill, especially grasses such as oats.



Clover, Berseem - Ziegler [2020]

Clover, Berseem - Salon [2020]

Clover, Berseem - Larson [2020]

GOALS

Growing Window	Very Long
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	

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Growth Traits

Duration	Annual
Zone Use	Emerging
Shape And Orientation	Erect
Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr)	1200 - 3000
Soil Texture	Fine Medium
Soil pH	6.5 - 8
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	Shallow
Inoculant Type	Berseem Clover Crimson Clover

Soil Drainage

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

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Planting

Seeds Per Lb	206900
Seed Price Per Lb	$$$
Base Seeding Rate (Lbs/A)	8 - 15
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	

Planting and Growth Windows

Frost Seeding	N/A
Reliable Establishment	05/15 - 08/15
Temperature/Moisture Risk	N/A
Active Growth Period	Winter Summer
Winter Survival	NeverSeldom
Can Interseed	N/A

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Extended Comments

Termination: If using herbicides to terminate use a tank mixture (e.g., glyphosate + dicamba or 2,4-d)

Pollinators: Delay termination until at least 30-50% bloom to maximize value to pollinators.

Nematodes: Host for root-knot and soybean cyst nematode

References & Resources

Use of Cover Crops and Green Manures to Attract Beneficial Insects, University of Connecticut Integrated Pest Management Program
Cover Crops for Home Gardens, University of Maine Cooperative Extension
Selected Green Manures and Cover Crops for Maine, University of Maine