

Red Clover

Trifolium pratense



Photo by Tony Wills

Season type: perennial legume; winter annual legume

Uses

Compaction reduction	VG	Attract beneficials	VG
Residue persistence	F	Nitrogen scavenger	G
Erosion control	G	P & K scavenger	VG
Weed control	VG	Forage quality	E
Nematode control	F		

E=Excellent; VG=Very Good; G=Good; F=Fair; P=Poor/None

Seeding rate: 15–20 lb/acre.

Inoculant: Clover type

Planting date: September to October

Production

Residue: 2,000 to 5,000 lb/acre

Nitrogen: 70 to 150 lb/acre

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Photo by S. Reynolds

Adapted to a wide range of soil and environmental conditions; grows best where corn grows well.

Tolerant of shade, it can be overseeded into a standing crop.

Mix with small grains, sweetclover, corn, soybeans, vegetables, grass forages.

Pollinated by honeybees and bumblebees, it is a major source of honey.

More drought- and shade- tolerant than most clovers.

Less invasive than white clover.



Photo by S. Reynolds



Photo by Dr. M. Halling

Deep tap root (~1 meter) breaks up compacted soil layers, makes it an efficient user of soil water and a good nutrient scavenger.

Adapted from *Managing Clover Crop Profitably 3rd Edition*



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Research
Service

Conservation Systems
Fact Sheet No. 04m
January 2016

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