# SUBTERRANEAN CLOVER

TRIFOLIUM SUBTERRANEUM, T. YANNINICUM, T. BRACHYCALYCINUM COOL SEASON ANNUAL LEGUME



## **PRODUCTION GOALS**

Not Effective **Quick Growth Lasting Residue** Soil Builder 11111 **Nitrogen Fixation** Nitrogen Scavenging **Erosion Reduction Compaction Reduction** n/d **Biofumigation Potential Weed Suppression** 

Forage Harvest Value

**Grain Harvest Value** 

Subterranean clover has a prostrate to semi-prostrate growth habit and a deep tap root. This low growing legume is suitable for grazing but is not suitable as hay due to its growth habit.

Subterranean clover has vigorous seedlings that form nodules quickly.

#### **TOLERANCES**

Flood
Heat
Drought
Shade
Low Fertility
Salinity

Optimal pH

5.5 - 7.0

## **SOIL DRAINAGE CLASS**

Very Well
Well
Moderately Well
Somewhat Poor
Poorly
Very Poorly

### **AREA & ADAPTABILITY**

Subterranean clover is suitable as an annual across British Columbia. It thrives in Mediterranean climates (hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters).

Winter Hardiness - Zone 7-9

# **Seeding Considerations**

Rate Drilled	Rate Broadcast	Depth	Frost Seeding	Minimum Germination Temperature	Seeds #
10-20 lbs/ac	20-30 lbs/ac	0.25-0.5 in	No	3°C	31,700 /lb
(11-23 kg/ha)	(23-34 kg/ha)	(0.5-1 cm)		(38°F)	(70,000 /kg)

Subterreanean clover is best seeded shallowly into a firm seedbed. Inoculant: Use red/white clover inoculant.

# **Management Considerations**

There are several subspecies and varieties that have different suitability for water-logged soils and for soil pH. Subterranean clover is able to vigorously reseed itself, so it has the potential to volunteer if allowed to set seed. It is also very competitive and works well in suppressing weeds. Producers in other areas have used Subterranean clover as an interseeded crop in cereal grains to boost nitrogen availability.

**Inter-seeding Potential** Volunteer Establishment Nitrogen Concentration

**Dry Matter Yield** 3000 - 8500 lbs/acre 3360 - 9520 kg/ha

> Nitrogen Contribution

75 - 200 lbs/acre 84 - 224 kg/ha

## **Termination**

Subterranean clover can be terminated through tillage and the application of herbicides. It should be terminated during the late bud stage to maximize plant available nitrogen.

# References

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- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE). 2012. Managing Cover Crops Profitably: 3rd Ed. National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA, University of Maryland & University of Vermont.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture. (n.d.). Pacific Northwest Cover Crop Selection Tool.
- Lusk, Mike. 2015. Photo 2533331 Subterranean Clover. iNaturalist. inaturalist.org/photos/2533331

#### Disclaimer



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