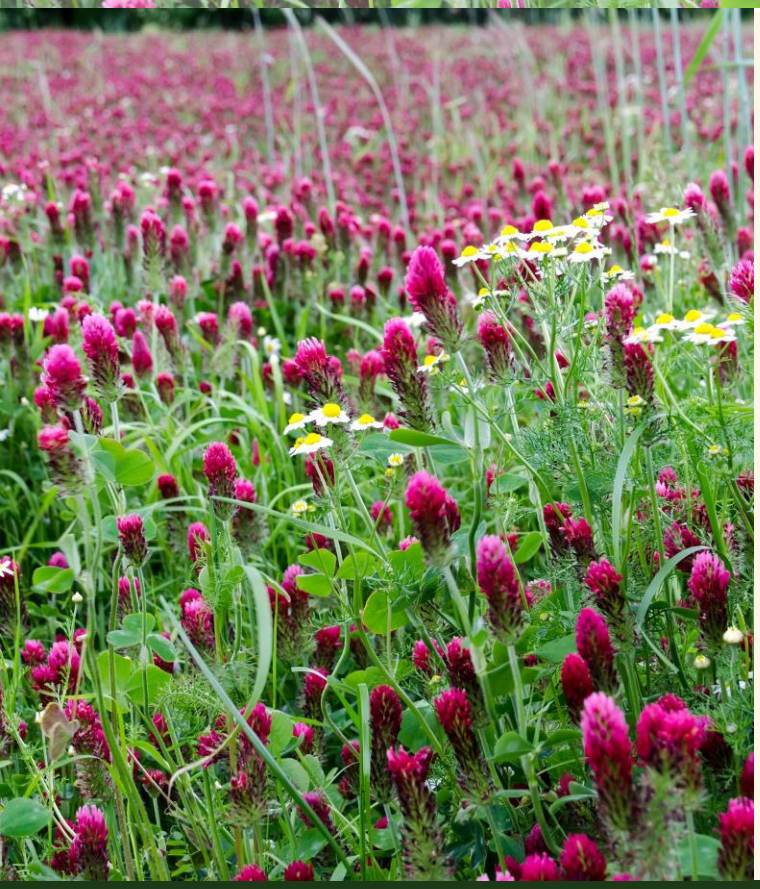
CRIMSON CLOVER

TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM - COOL SEASON ANNUAL LEGUME



PRODUCTION GOALS

Not Effective — *Very Effective*

Quick Growth	●●●●○
Lasting Residue	●●●○○
Soil Builder	●●●●○
Nitrogen Fixation	●●●●○
Nitrogen Scavenging	●●●○○
Erosion Reduction	●●●●○
Compaction Reduction	●●○○○
Biofumigation Potential	n/d
Weed Suppression	●●●●○
Forage Harvest Value	●●●●○
Grain Harvest Value	●●●○○

Crimson clover has a medium depth tap root and upright to semi-upright growth habit. Its large colorful flowers attract an array of pollinators. When compared to other clovers, crimson clover has a large seed and better seedling vigour.

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

Crimson clover is suitable as an annual in nearly all regions of British Columbia. It may overwinter in regions with mild conditions.

Winter Hardiness Zone 5-9

Seeding Considerations

Rate Drilled	Rate Broadcast	Depth	Frost Seeding	Minimum Germination Temperature	Seeds #
15-18 lbs/ac (17-20 kg/ha)	22-30 lbs/ac (25-34 kg/ha)	0.25-0.5 in (0.6-1.25 cm)	No	6°C (42°F)	140,000 /lb (63,500 /kg)

Use a crimson or berseem clover inoculant to ensure development of rhizobia and adequate nitrogen fixation

Management Considerations

Crimson clover has rapid growth, early spring N release, vigorous reseeding ability, deep red flower colour and abundant nectar production that attracts many bee species. Larger seeds with better seedling vigor than most clovers, later seeding than white or red clover. Compared to hairy vetch it can be earlier-seeded, has more fall growth, and earlier spring bloom. However, it has slower residue breakdown of stems and therefore slower N release.

Inter-seeding Potential ▮▮▮▮▯

Volunteer Establishment ▮▮▮▮▮

Nitrogen Concentration 1.8 - 2.9%

Dry Matter Yield

2250-6000 lbs/acre
2520-6720 kg/ha

Termination

To maximize the amount of plant available nitrogen for the next crop, crimson clover should be terminated at the early bud stage. Crimson clover is the easiest clover to kill by mowing and can also be terminated through tillage or the use of herbicides.

Nitrogen Contribution

70-130 lbs/acre
78.4-145.6 kg/ha

References

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