

# Crimson Clover



## Benefits

- ◆ Erosion Control
- ◆ Weed Control
- ◆ Attracts Beneficials
- ◆ Nitrogen Scavenger/Excellent Nitrogen Source
- ◆ P & K Scavenger
- ◆ High Quality Forage
- ◆ Excellent soil builder
- ◆ Fast establishment

## Seeding Date, Methods & Rate

**Drilled: 10-20# per acre**

**Broadcast: 11-22# per acre**

**Aerial: 12-24# per acre**

Crimson clover seed should be inoculated for best performance. It can be broadcast and rolled or drilled into a firm seedbed, shallow drilling produces a better stand. For spring planting as a summer annual, plant as soon as all danger of frost is past. For fall planting, seed six to eight weeks before the first killing frost. Prefers well-drained soils. Inoculation required for nitrogen production. Plant less than 1/2 inch deep.

## Burndown

Crimson clover does well in cool, moist conditions and in well drained soils. If planted in spring or summer it will bloom in the same year and will not over winter. For early season weed control and nitrogen source, crimson clover can be spring seeded, then mowed or plowed down as a green manure or harvested for a summer crop. Potassium or phosphorus deficiencies will inhibit nitrogen production. To kill- spray or incorporate. Mowing or rolling at early to full bloom works as well. Good chance of winterkill.

## Expectations

Crimson Clover is a dense growing annual legume planted as a cover crop preceding corn, soybean and grain sorghum crop plantings. Crimson Clover is an excellent Nitrogen source and has the potential to produce 70-150 units of N/acre if allowed to reach 50% bloom, about half is available in the first year. It works well before grain sorghum and sorghum-sudangrass crops, which are planted later than corn. Crimson Clover provides a habitat for insect predators such as pirate bugs and lady beetles. It also attracts aphids. Honey bees are attracted to the nectar for honey production. Crimson Clover establishes earlier than hairy vetch in the fall, so suppresses weeds better.

**Contact Barbara Barten at Gutwein Seed Services for a Quote: 219-866-0555 or [barb@gss4ag.com](mailto:barb@gss4ag.com)**