



SARDI Rose Clover

Trifolium hirtum

A highly productive self regenerating clover variety replacing Hykon Rose. One feature that sets SARDI Rose apart from Hykon rose is its high hard seed levels at the end of summer. SARDI Rose shows hard seed levels of 65% compared to Hykon's 20%. This fact, coupled with SARDI's late hard seed breakdown, protects this variety against false breaks. SARDI's early maturity coupled with its high hard seed count make this rose clover variety ideal for low-mid rainfall areas of Australia.

- Highest hard seededness of any Rose Clover currently available
- Suitable for low to mid rainfall areas (350-500mm)
- Outstanding clover option for hay production

Seed agronomy table

Maturity	Early / Mid
Min Rainfall	350
Hard Seededness	Good
Waterlogging Tolerance	Poor
Seeding Rate	Kg/Ha

Dryland
High Rainfall / Irrigation

5-8
10-15

Blends using this Seed

Dryland Medic Row Blend

Enterprises this seed is being used for

Sheep
Beef Cattle
Horse
Hay & Silage



Goldstrike[®] the premium seed treatment that assists with establishment vigour and plant development.



Establishment Guarantee[®] replacement of your crop if it fails to establish satisfactorily in the first thirty days.*

Strengths

- Very well adapted to mildly acid and alkaline sandy-loam and loam soils.
- Productive annual forage and tolerant to heavy grazing in medium-low rainfall areas.
- Suited to self regenerating ley systems or short-term phase farming.
- Protection against false breaks.
- Medium-low level of hard seed.
- Ideal companion plant in mixtures with other legumes such as subterranean clover or serradella.

Limitations

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- Not adapted to waterlogged soils.
- Low level of hard seeds.
- Lack of persistence under intensive crop rotation.

Plant Description

The inflorescence is a globular terminal head, which varies from light to dark pink in colour. Seeds are smooth, slightly compressed, cream coloured, approximately 2 mm long and weigh 3 - 4 mg, with about 250,000 seeds per Kg.

Pasture type and use

Rose clover is an aerial seeding, winter growing self-regenerating annual pasture legume. It is typically grown in areas that support either subterranean clover or annual medics and is often sown in mixture with subterranean clover, serradella and biserrula.

Where it grows

Rainfall: Suited to regions with 400 to 700 mm annual rainfall.

Soils: Adapted to soils of mildly acid to alkaline reaction (pH 5 to 8 CaCl₂) and to a range of textures.

Temperature: Tolerant to frosts.

Establishment

Companion species:

Grasses: Italian ryegrass, consol lovegrass and Premier digit grass).

Legumes: Subterranean clover, biserrula, serradella, crimson clover, bladder clover, annual medics and gland clover.

Sowing/planting rates as single species: Sowing rate for pure pasture swards should be 5 - 15 Kg/ha. Sow shallow at 0.5 cm. Rolling after sowing is an advantage.

* ensure seed is Goldstrike treated.

Sowing/planting rates in mixtures: Sow at 5 - 15 kg/ha in mixtures with other pasture legumes.

* ensure seed is Goldstrike treated.

Sowing time: Sow Rose clover in autumn as close to the break of season as possible.

Inoculation: Goldstrike treated.

The use of XLR8 seed treatment is recommended to reduce damage from insects at seedling stages.

Fertiliser: Sow with 100 - 150 kg/ha superphosphate, or super/potash if on sandy soils.

Management

Grazing/cutting: Rose clover can be heavily grazed in winter. However, because of its erect growth habit, care needs to be taken in spring to prevent overgrazing and reduced seed set.

Ability to spread: Many seeds of rose clover survive ingestion by sheep and are readily spread around paddocks.

Weed potential: There have not been reported cases of rose clover growing within native vegetation.

Major pests: Rose clover is moderately tolerant to blue green aphid, lucerne flea and red legged earth mite.

Major diseases: It has little or no susceptibility to clover scorch disease (*Kabatiella caulivora*).

Herbicide susceptibility: Tolerant to most of the broad-leaf herbicides used on pastures. Grass weeds can be safely controlled with common grass-selective herbicides.

Animal production

Feeding value: Rose clover has palatability similar to subterranean clover. Organic matter digestibility of rose clover in spring is usually around 70% with 20-25% crude protein, but these values decrease with senescence.

Palatability: Highly palatable.

Production potential: The quantity of forage produced by rose clover is generally equivalent and sometimes better than subterranean clover. Peak dry matter yields in ungrazed swards can range between 4 and 7 t/ha.

Livestock disorders/toxicity: No livestock disorders have been reported but, as with most legumes, could cause bloat in cattle in very pure rose clover swards. Rose clover has very low to undetectable levels of the isoflavones associated with infertility in sheep.



Disclaimer: Pasture Genetics has taken all reasonable care in the preparation of this publication. The information contained is thought to be correct at the time of publication. Always seek professional advice from your local agronomist or Pasture Genetics representative prior to purchasing any products. Combined information provided courtesy of Pastures Australia and Pasture Genetics

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