

# Turf Clover™

## Miniature Small Leaf White Clover



Drought Tolerant



Miniature Size



Nitrogen Fixing

### Key features

- Drought Tolerant
- 4 - 6 inches tall - 3 inches mowed
- Nitrogen fixing legume
- Shade Tolerant
- Retains its Green Color much Longer than Lawn Grasses
- Superior Wear Tolerance
- Very Easy to Grow and Establish

### Specifications

Overseeding: 0.5-1lbs./M\*  
Seeding Rate: 1-2lbs./M

\*M=1,000 square feet

**Turf Clover™ (Trifolium repens) is a perennial white clover growing to approximately 4 - 6 inches tall, making it ideal for a lawn alternative or as an addition to an existing lawn . It is a very fine leaved white clover, primarily spreading by stolons that travel outwards on the soil surface which root as they come into contact with the soil surface.**

Adding just 2 - 5% of Turf Clover to a grass seed mixture will result in enough seeds to fill a lawn. These seeds are packaged pre-inoculated with Rhizobia that are required to trigger processes that enable the plant to "fix nitrogen." This is a unique ability to clover, which is pulling nitrogen from the air and fix or convert it to a plant-usable form. This makes Turf Clover a great companion for turf grass varieties. The dense stand comprised of clover and the turf grass will suppress existing weeds as well as prevent the establishment of new weeds, aided by self fertilization! In addition to these attributes, Turf Clover is very tolerant to the lower mowing heights on typical rotary lawn mowers. Turf Clover will flower once a year, somewhere between late spring and summer and will be less pronounced than typical white clover.

### Establishment

Adding even a very small amount of Turf Clover to an existing lawn will improve the color, increase drought tolerance, and crowd out weeds. Turf Clover has such tiny leaves when mowed and short stems when mowed, that from a distance, it will blend in discretely with the appearance of your lawn.

### The Sustainable & Cost Effective Choice

The cost of either adding Turf Clover to an existing lawn seed mix or replacing a lawn completely is typically recovered during the first year. Planting Pollinators Paradise, a Tall fescue and Turf Clover mixture, will have long lasting benefits combining improved Tall fescue varieties and nitrogen fixing Turf Clover. This clover tolerates wet conditions, as well as drought, however, it can only tolerate wet conditions as long as the area is not flooded for long periods. It can also tolerate full sun to partial shade applications, making it a very flexible in regions and applications.



## Establishment (cont.)

### Low-Growing Means Less Mowing

Turf Clover reaches a mature height of only 4 - 6 inches, meaning in some applications it doesn't even require mowing to serve as a functional ground cover! Unmowed Turf Clover is perfect on hillsides or in other areas that are hard to reach and maintain. For those that prefer an even lower Turf Clover stand, the plant has the ability to adapt to lower heights with the help of a few cuttings. Mowing at 3 inches is a standard recommended height of cut for Turf Clover and still receive all of the benefits the plant provides. Even in manicured settings it can even be maintained alongside turf grass at a height of 1 inch! At these heights of cut other white clovers look considerably different to turf grass as the leaf blades are twice the size and may stand out like a sore thumb. Turf Clover will evenly distribute itself in lawns, meaning it will not have the patchy and weedy appearance as seen with ordinary white clover.



### Superior Drought Tolerance

The image to the right demonstrates the drought tolerance of Turf Clover and its ability to pass that benefit on to turf grass, taken during a trial at a research site of New Mexico State University. The highlighted plot is our Pollinators Paradise mixture of Turf Clover and improved Tall fescue varieties where the surrounding plots are a variety of species without Turf Clover. This picture was taken near the end of the trial after extended drought, and as weakened plants slowly lost color with reduced cover and moisture. As you can see, the plot with Turf Clover retained color and cover longer into a stressful environment thanks to deep roots and added fertility. Lawns containing Turf Clover have better early and late color in the year and adds drought tolerance to turf species.



### Growing Conditions

As mentioned, Turf Clover is adapted to a wide range of climatic and soil conditions from wet to dry and sunny to shady. Turf Clover prefers moist soils and at least some direct sun exposure during the day. It does well in a variety of soil types, and can even improve nutrient poor or compacted soils with its deep rooting nature, stoloniferous growth, and nitrogen fixing capability.

Turf Clover only needs to be seeded at 1 to 2 pounds per thousand square feet (5 grams per square meter) meaning a little seed goes a long way. When adding to an existing lawn, it will require even less seed, but might take a few seeding applications over the course of a year until the clover takes hold and spreads itself.

### Wear Tolerant

Turf Clover added to turf species can improve the wear tolerance and long term density of the stand. It can do this by fixing nitrogen and slowly releasing nutrients to turf grass plants, making them healthier and more durable. Turf Clover also spreads and roots, knitting itself into the turf stand. Even in heavy traffic that severs the Turf Clover stolons, it is able to sustain growth from the vast network of chained plants. Improving wear tolerance by adding some Turf Clover opens the door to seed into many high traffic applications. These applications most often

involve lawns with high pet activity, paths with frequent traffic, and low to moderate maintenance sports fields that need added green cover or drought tolerance. These areas would otherwise be hard to keep ground cover high, leading to increased weed encroachment with the potential for herbicides being applied. Adding Turf Clover to grass not only improves wear tolerances, but the health of the soil environment and is safer for those utilizing it in natural areas.

