

Cert. Marathon Red Clover



Marathon is a high yielding variety of red clover developed and released by the Department of Agronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison in cooperation with the Agricultural Research Services, U.S.D.A.

It has excellent disease resistance and quality similar to Arlington, but it consistently exceeds Arlington in forage yield and persistence.

**Seeding Rate:
12-14 lbs. per acre/alone
6-8 lbs per acre/mixture**



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TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION



Red Clover (Trifolium pretense L.)

Marathon

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Agronomic Traits:

Early Seedling Vigor	Excellent
Growth Habit:	Upright from Crown
Recovery After Cutting:	Very Fast
Type of Stem:	Hollow, hairy stems & branches
Stem Length:	18 inch avg.
Branches per stem:	4
Leaf Description:	Slender stalk with 3 leaflets
Taproot:	Extensively branched
Flowers:	Compact Cluster
Flower Color:	rose-pink
Seed Pods:	small & short
Seed Shape:	Kidney
Seed color:	yellow to deep violet

Crop Use Information:

Life Cycle:	Perennial
Ease of Establishment:	Fair-Good
Shade Tolerance:	Good
Drought Stress:	Excellent
Wet Soil:	Fair-Good
Low pH Tolerance:	Poor
Minimum pH:	6.0

Planting Rates:

Bushel Weight:	60 lb
Seeds Per Pound: (Non-Coated)	272,000

Rate (Lbs):	<u>Pure</u>	<u>Coated</u>	<u>With Grass</u>
North:	12-14	12-14	6-8

Seeds/Sq Ft (Non-coated)	75-88	75-88	38-50
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Quality Data—Marathon Red Clover:

Adaptation and Distribution

Red clover grows best on well-drained loamy soils, but it will also grow on soil that is not as well-drained. Medium and fine textured soils are preferred by the plant over sandy or gravelly soils. It is best adapted to a pH of 6.0 or higher. Red clover is distributed throughout the United States and Canada.

Establishment

Red clover may be seeded in pure stands, but it is often mixed with grain or grass. Spring or late summer seedings are satisfactory. It may be overseeded in the spring or fall. Red clover seed should be inoculated. Phosphorus and potash are the fertilizer elements needed mostly by red clover. Apply as recommended by soil tests. Seeding may be done with a drill or broadcast. A firm, weed-free seedbed is essential. Plant seeds $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep. Seeding rates are 12 to 15 lbs. per acre broadcast and 6 to 8 lbs. per acre when drilled. For renovating pastures, the recommended seeding rate is 8 lbs. per acre.

Management

Graze or cut for hay when the red clover is $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ in bloom. A second cutting or successive grazing should occur when red clover is $\frac{1}{4}$ in bloom. Leave at least 2 to 3 inches of growth after each harvest. Care should be taken to eliminate or appreciably reduce bloating of livestock when grazing. Keep lime and fertilizers (phosphorus and potash) at the proper level.