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CLOVER FORAGE PRODUCTION AT OVERTON - 1989-90

C. L. Gilbert, G. R. Smith, and I. J. Pemberton

Background. Annual clovers produce high quality, cool-season forage without the addition of nitrogen fertilizer. Red clover and white clover are classified as perennials but generally act as annuals on sandy, upland soils in East Texas. Variety trials were conducted at Overton in 1989-90 to determine the seasonal forage production of 19 annual clovers, 11 white clovers, and 13 red clovers. All trials were overseeded on Coastal bermudagrass sods.

Research Findings. White and red clover production ranged from 4760 to 2364 lbs DM/ac for Reddy red clover and SRVR white clover, respectively (Tables 1 and 2). Annual clover forage production ranged from 3963 to 1034 lbs DM/ac for Meechee arrowleaf and Kondinin rose clover, respectively (Table 3).

Application. All varieties of arrowleaf, crimson, and ball clover gave acceptable performance in 1989-90. Overton R18 rose clover was more productive than Wilton, Kondinin, or Hykon rose clover. Forage production of Bigbee berseem was acceptable but berseem clover is generally not recommended for sandy, acid East Texas soils. Kondinin and Hykon rose clover are not recommended for East Texas forage systems.

Both white and red clover are productive in East Texas with a later distribution of yield compared to annual clovers. None of the red or white clover entries survived the summer of 1990 as perennials.

Table 1. Seasonal forage production of sod-seeded white clover at Overton 1989-90.

Variety	Harvest Date			Total
	4-12-90	5-15-90	6-7-90	
	-----lbs DM/ac-----			
Osceola	469	2176	1345	3990
B.L. Syn 2	444	1845	1255	3544
La. S-1	435	2008	1031	3474
VS 981	360	1853	1229	3442
Regal	390	1717	1308	3415
Fl. XPL-4	356	1829	1156	3341
C/W 600	341	1418	1463	3222
VS 700	437	1516	1258	3211
Cal. Ladino	247	1342	1134	2723
30-06	319	1098	1215	2632
SRVR	325	1071	968	2364
C.V. = 26.9%			LSD (0.05) =	1248

Table 2. Seasonal forage production of sod-seeded red clover at Overton 1989-90.

Variety	Harvest Date			Total
	4-11-90	5-14-90	6-7-90	
	-----lbs DM/ac-----			
Reddy	1067	2284	1409	4760
FL.-MTC	1635	1900	1139	4674
Kenland	1034	1808	1559	4401
FL.-5	1389	1844	1138	4371
Kenstar	865	1976	1467	4308
Redman	939	1920	1422	4281
FL.6EF	1305	1783	1080	4168
Starglo	797	1928	1283	4008
78122	788	1875	1339	4002
ISI-84-KM	1025	1669	1132	3826
H-K	783	1787	1191	3761
Atlas	729	1560	1454	3743
Persist	551	1329	1641	3521
C.V. = 16.7%			LSD (0.05) =	992

Table 3. Seasonal forage production of sod-seeded annual clovers at Overton 1989-90.

Variety	Harvest Date			Total
	3-13-90	4-6-90	5-16-90	
	-----lbs DM/ac-----			
Meechee arrowleaf	690	686	2587	3963
Common ball	406	702	2770	3878
Yuchi arrowleaf	555	729	2419	3703
Segrest ball	227	614	2844	3685
Overton R18 rose	426	970	2118	3514
RF-20 rose	435	919	2082	3436
Amclo arrowleaf	383	590	2439	3412
RD-3 rose	364	974	2063	3401
OVB-2 berseem	437	330	2553	3320
Dixie crimson	485	597	2231	3313
Bigbee berseem	429	341	2501	3271
Tibbee crimson	473	529	2254	3256
Chief crimson	463	753	2013	3229
Flame crimson	427	648	1961	3036
OVB-3 berseem	235	391	2191	2817
Wilton rose	214	723	1747	2684
Hykon rose	365	230	796	1391
Kondinin rose	298	240	496	1034
C.V. = 16.4%			LSD (0.05) =	728