

LS 9703

RED CLOVER



With excellent forage quality and the ability to thrive under varied conditions, red clover is a key component in forage programs throughout most of the U.S. and into Canada. With increased research and development, there has never been a better time to utilize red clover. One of the newest varieties, LS 9703 improved red clover provides higher yields and increased persistence, often maintaining excellent production for three years. Use it for hay. Use it for grazing. Use it for silage. Use it in just about any forage program.

KEY POINTS

- Superior Yields
- Outstanding persistence for up to three years
- High yields in second year
- Rapid regrowth after harvesting
- Excellent heat and cold tolerance
- Strong disease resistance
- High forage quality

LEWIS
SEED CO.
TURF & FORAGE GRASS SEED

BACKGROUND & APPLICATION

LS 9703 improved red clover was designed in the Midwest. The background genetics of LS 9703 include some of the highest-performing red clover varieties from the past decade. After an extensive breeding process to fine-tune performance, LS 9703 was placed in university red clover variety trials in Kentucky, New York, Ohio and Tennessee. The variety out-right won many of those trials. The overall performance in the various soil and climate conditions proves LS 9703 can be used for virtually any forage program throughout the adaptation zone of clover.

ESTABLISHMENT & MAINTENANCE

SEEDING RATES

Pure Stand: 15 lbs/acre

Frost-seeding (mixed stand): 6-8 lbs/acre

Mixed grass (newly established field): 6-8 lbs/acre

Red clover prefers a moderately drained soil with full sun, although it can thrive in various soil moistures and under moderate shade (especially as a seedling). Frost-seed in late winter or plant with conventional methods in early spring or early fall.

SOIL PREPARATION

Red clover, like most clover species, has a relatively small seed - approximately 260,000 seeds per pound raw and 170,000 seeds per pound coated. As a result, the small seed should be planted 1/4 inch deep. Unless frost-seeding, seed should be planted into a firm seed bed.

FERTILITY

Red clover performs best in a soil pH range of 6.0 - 7.0, although it can survive in a soil pH as low as 5.5, giving red clover an advantage over alfalfa for slightly acidic soils. As with forage legumes, for peak performance, red clover requires high levels of potassium and moderate levels of phosphorus. Small amounts of nitrogen can be beneficial in seedling development prior to plants maturing and developing nitrogen-fixing nodes. Fertilize according to soil test recommendations.

ADAPTATION ZONE

Red clover is widely grown from the upper South through the Northeast and Midwest, along with the Pacific Northwest. Under irrigation, it can be highly productive in the arid northern and central Plains and Intermountain West.

HARVESTING/GRAZING

LS 9703 improved red clover provides exceptional yields through the first two mechanical harvests of the season, and depending on conditions, can continue producing through late-season harvests. While all forages can be more productive under rotational-grazing programs, LS 9703 can be utilized for continuous grazing, particularly in mixed-grass stands. LS 9703 can be mixed with nearly all traditional cool-season perennial forages - orchardgrass, tall fescue, perennial ryegrass, timothy, Kentucky bluegrass, smooth brome, meadow brome and other species, along with bermudagrass in the far southern range of red clover.

LS 9703 ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

Heat: Medium-high tolerance

Drought: Medium-high

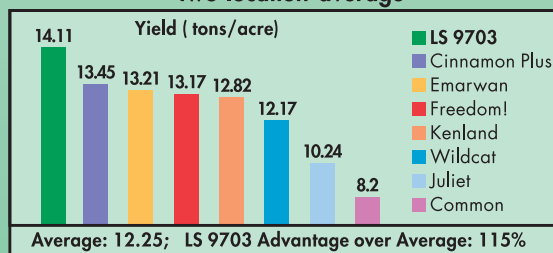
Cold: High tolerance

Diseases: Northern Anthracnose (moderate resistance)

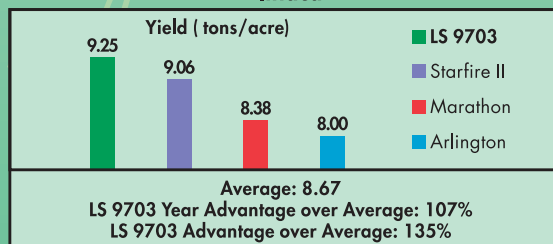
Southern Anthracnose (resistant)

Powdery Mildew (resistant)

University of Kentucky: 2009 - 2010
Two-location average



Cornell University: 2010 - 2011
Ithaca



Ohio State University: 2010
South Charleston

