

Annual Clover

Annual clovers are commonly used in South Africa and predominantly in the winter rainfall areas. These seasonal species have the ability to produce good quality feed under dry land or semi-irrigated areas where cereals used to be the norm. They are widely adapted to most soil types and being a legumes needs to be inoculated with Rhizobium bacteria. Annual clovers as a pasture can produce benefits in four ways:

- (1) Increased yield
- (2) Improved animal performance

Lightning

Persian Clover (*Trifolium resupinatum*)

- An annual clover (capacity for self regeneration varies)
- Intolerant of acid and sandy soils
- A bloat risk
- Low oestrogen



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- Intolerant of acid and sandy soils
- A bloat risk
- Low oestrogen
- Slow to cure as hay. Roller conditioning may be advantageous
- Persian clover's very small seeds require a fine, weed free seed bed and should be sown no deeper than 10mm
- Very susceptible to attack by red-legged earth mite and lucerne flea

Lightning

- Soft seeded
- Mid season maturity – about 145 days to flowering
- Vigorous, erect to semi-erect annual clover
- Establishes quickly from a later sowing
- Tolerates waterlogging and mild soil salinity
- Forage / fodder cropping / annual mixes
- Can be sown with oats or tetraploid ryegrass

Specifications

Sowing rate (pure)	6 - 10 kg/ha
Sowing rate (mixture)	2 - 5 kg/ha