

Red Clover Silage Leys

Red Clover Ley

Two Year Mixture

Ref. MIXCGO3

Two years maximum production of silage without the need for artificial nitrogen fertiliser. First cut silage is to be expected during the second or third week of May.

3.00 kg certified MILVUS red clover
3.00 kg certified GEMINI tet. Italian ryegrass
3.00 kg certified FOX Italian ryegrass
3.00 kg certified FABIO tet. Italian ryegrass

12.00 kg per acre £35.60 (30 kg/ha £89.00)

Red Clover Ley

Three-Four Year Mixture

Ref. MIXCGO6

More persistent and high yielding, this ley has proved to be highly successful. It incorporates the best red clover with hybrid and perennial ryegrasses and gives yields nearly as high as our two year red clover ley.

3.00 kg certified MILVUS red clover
3.00 kg certified ABERECHO tet. hybrid ryegrass
3.00 kg certified ABEREXCEL tet. hybrid ryegrass
3.00 kg certified CALIBRA tet. perennial ryegrass

12.00 kg per acre £40.57 (30 kg/ha £101.43)

Use

Red clover is principally used for silage production. These leys can be grazed but high yields make them particularly attractive for conservation.

The popularity of red clover declined during the 1970s with the increasing dependence on nitrogen fertiliser. This trend is now being reversed with producers looking to utilise the many benefits of this valuable legume.

Home Grown Protein

Red clover silage has a high crude protein content at around 20%. This coupled with high animal intakes, results in higher milk yields and higher liveweight gains compared with grass silage.

Yields

Annual yields of 13-15t DM/ha can be achieved when grown with ryegrass. This is comparable with conventionally grown Italian ryegrass leys receiving bagged nitrogen. One advantage of red clover is its ability to yield in dry years.

Variety

We are extremely pleased to be using the variety Milvus again this year. Without doubt this new improved red clover from Switzerland has impressed those who have grown it. It has been used for seven years in the UK and has demonstrated its persistence well. Milvus is also very competitive and it is therefore generally recommended to be sown with ryegrass.

Establishment

In common with other legumes it is good practice to sow either in spring, usually April, or by early September if autumn sowing is preferred. Late autumn sowings are not recommended. Spring sowings can be undersown to spring cereals which can then be wholecropped or harvested for grain. Soils will ideally be pH 6 or above and P & K indices of 2.