

CLOVERS

Bartolo Bladder Clover

Adaptable over wide soil types, with high hard seed

Trifolium spumosum

Semi erect cultivar suited to mildly acid to alkaline sandy loam soils with pH 5–8. Tolerant of heavy grazing. Hard seeded, with protection against false breaks. Does not produce well in saline or waterlogged soils.

ABOUT THIS VARIETY

Bladder clover is an aerial seeding, self-regenerating annual legume and an alternative to sub clover and medic, being more widely adapted, with higher dry matter production, and a prolific seeder for pasture persistence. The quantity and quality of forage produced is generally equivalent to or better than other current pasture options.

Bartolo is a productive annual forage, tolerant of heavy grazing in medium to low rainfall areas, and suited to self-regenerating arable land or short-term phase farming systems. It is very well adapted to mildly acid and alkaline sandy-loam and loam soils, and its high level of hard seed enables regeneration after cropping. It is susceptible to severe frosts.

The feeding value of bladder clover is similar to subterranean clover, with spring digestibility usually around 82% and 22% crude protein. Formononetin and genistein levels are lower than in subterranean clover and are unlikely to cause a phyto-oestrogen effect in grazing animals.



QUICK FACTS

-  **TYPE & PERSISTENCY**
Annual
-  **MIN RAINFALL**
350 mm+
-  **SOIL & PH**
Soil range: Sand to Heavy · pH 5+ (CaCl₂)
-  **SOWING RATE**
5–10 kg/ha Monoculture, 1–5 kg/ha In a mix
-  **TOLERANCES**
Mild Low pH
-  **END USE**
Grazing, Hay, Silage
-  **LIVESTOCK**
Beef, Sheep, Equine
-  **DAYS TO FLOWERING**
105
-  **HARD SEED LEVEL**
High
-  **OESTROGEN LEVEL**
Low
-  **BLOAT RISK**
Moderate

KEY ATTRIBUTES

- ✓ Aerial seeding, self-regenerating annual legume
- ✓ Tolerant of heavy grazing
- ✓ Regenerates after cropping
- ✓ Suited to mildly acid to alkaline sandy loams
- ✓ Hard seed protects against false breaks
- ✓ Good hay and silage

PLANTING & GRAZING NOTES

Sow as close to the break of season in autumn as possible, shallow at 0.5cm; rolling after sowing is an advantage. Inoculation is recommended, using Group C inoculant. Sow with 100–150 kg/ha superphosphate, or super/potash on sandy soils. Compatible with subterranean clover, biserrula, serradella, crimson, rose and gland clover, annual medics and Italian and perennial ryegrass. It can be heavily grazed in winter, but reduce the stocking rate at flowering time. As with most legumes, it could cause bloat in cattle in very pure bladder clover swards.

DISEASE & PEST RESISTANCE

Little or no sensitivity to clover scorch. Moderately tolerant to blue green aphid and lucerne flea, and less affected by redlegged earth mite than sub clover or medics. Pseudopeziza leafspot has been seen in high rainfall areas. Sensitive to the herbicides bromoxynil, Spinnaker and Raptor.

STAND LIFE

A self-regenerating annual. A high level of hard seed enables regeneration after cropping, and many seeds survive ingestion by sheep. Reduce stocking at flowering to protect seed set.

HOW IT'S SOLD

FORM	PACK
Bare	25 kg