



# Freedom Red Clover

Freedom! – so named because of its freedom from pubescence (non-glandular hairs) — is one of the latest red clovers developed exclusively for Barenbrug USA. Research indicates the attributes of Freedom! make it ideal for hay production.

With less pubescence than typical red clovers, Freedom! promotes faster drying in the field and reduces the chance for loss of quality due to untimely rainfall. In addition, less pubescence also reduces the dustiness of hay, thus improving air quality. Freedom! is also well adapted for grazing and silage.

## Adaptation—Climate

Freedom! is adapted to the Northeast and Midwest as well as the Transition Zone. It also performs well in select regions of the Western U.S.

## Adaptation - Soil

Freedom! performs best in moderately to well-drained soils. Optimum pH for production of Freedom! is 6.0 to 7.6; however, it performs better than alfalfa in wet, acidic soils (pH 5.5-6.5). Adequate levels of calcium, phosphorus and potassium are very important for success.

## Uses

Freedom! is generally utilized in mixed plantings with grass for hay, but can also be successfully applied to a wide range of applications. One popular application is silage. During ensiling, red clovers tend to maintain a high proportion of true protein. This greatly enhances the feed value of the silage. Freedom! also thrives in a grazing program and provides high quality forage with fast regrowth.

## Establishment

Freedom! is a rapidly-establishing legume. It should generally be fall planted at least 8 weeks before a killing frost. However, in the Northern regions a frost-seeding in the early spring is also a suitable option. Freedom! can be established via a full-cultivation, no-till seeding, or broadcast when frost-seeding. Freedom! is pre-inoculated and available with Yellow Jacket. Yellow Jacket is a proprietary coating that contains ZEBA, a patented compound that absorbs a minimum of six hundred (600) times its weight in water and increases healthy plant establishment.

## Management

Appropriate cutting regimes will improve forage yield and stand persistence. In the establishment year, harvest prior to full-bloom stage. For an established stand, first cut should occur at early-bloom stage and subsequent harvests at late-bud or early-bloom stage. Harvesting forage under hot, dry conditions or too close to the first freeze can reduce stand longevity.

## At A Glance

### Key Features

- Low pubescence and reduced dustiness
- Faster drying with impressive yields
- High forage quality – palatable and nutritious
- Improved winter-hardiness and persistence
- Fixes nitrogen – reduces fertilizer costs
- Available in Yellow Jacket® enhanced seed coating or Organic Coating
- Pre-inoculated with Rhizobium bacteria to enhance nodulation for nitrogen fixation

### Establishment

#### Seeding rate:

Seeding a pure stand:

15 - 20 lbs / acre

Seeding with grass:

8 - 10 lbs / acre

Frost-seeding into grass: 10 -

12 lbs / acre

Seeds per lb: 270,000



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