Cover Crop Tech Sheet

## Yellow Blossom Sweetclover

Yellow blossom sweetclover is a nitrogen-fixing legume cover crop with good soil-building and soil coverage capabilities as well. Its deep tap root breaks up compacted soils. Works better as a cover crop than a forage; forage quality is somewhat low. High biomass production. It is quite winter-hardy and drought-tolerant.

Sweetclover has larger seeds than red and white clovers, so it is not well-suited to frost seeding and is best drilled. It does not tolerate acidic soils. Yellow blossom sweetclover has good drought tolerance especially when seeded in spring just after the last frost. It grows vigorously and can fix 125 lbs of nitrogen per acre.

## At A Glance

## **Key Features**

- Deep tap root for soil building, breaking up compacted soils, and nutrient scavenging
- Blooms attract beneficial insects and pollinators
- Good soil cover and weed suppressor
- Recommended as cover crop instead of forage—quality is lower than necessary for dairy cows

## Establishment

Seeding Rate: 15-25 lbs/A

Depth: 1/4" - 1/2"

Fine, firm seedbed recommended



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