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Hubam Clover

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HIGHER CROP YIELDS FROM IMPROVED VARIETIES

corn

soybeans

wheat

oats

legumes

grasses

Purdue University
Agricultural Extension Service

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HUBAM CLOVER

Hubam clover is an annual strain of white blossomed sweet clover. It blooms the first year and may be used for hay or seed, pasture or as a plow-down crop the year of seeding. It resembles the common biennial sweet clover, but the plants are much less leafy; they are more upright in their early habit of growth; and the tap roots are straight and slender, the tap roots of biennial sweet clover become large and branching in late fall.

Soil Adaptation: Soil requirements and inoculation are the same as for biennial sweet clover.

Method of Seeding: Seeding with small grain to serve as a nurse crop until the small plants are large enough to compete with weeds is the only practical method. The growth of Hubam will sometimes be as tall as the small grain and may interfere with grain harvest.

Uses:

Hay: Growth is largely stopped if cut when small grain is harvested as the plants are slender and upright with little or no low branches on which new growth depends. A light cutting of rather coarse hay may be expected from Hubam after the small grain crop is harvested. With good early growth mowing at the milk stage of the oats has given good yields of mixed hay in some trials.

Pasture: Hubam, seeded in oats, has some value for emergency pasture on land that is to be plowed in late fall. With reasonably good moisture conditions it may be expected to make a rapid growth after the oats are pastured off.

Bee pasture: Hubam blossoms make excellent bee pasture as the crop continues to bloom over a long period and the quality of honey from it is high. However, the returns from honey should be secondary rather than the primary purpose of seeding Hubam.

Harvesting the Seed Crop: Hubam is a heavy seed producer but the seed is difficult to save because of uneven development and ripening of the seed and ease of shattering when ripe. Direct combining is probably the most practical method.

Hubam vs. Biennial Sweet Clover: In comparative trials the biennial has made as much and better hay than Hubam in the same length of time. In plowing under for soil improvement, the biennial produces as much total organic matter, makes several times as much and deeper root growth, and adds about twice the amount of nitrogen to the soil as the Hubam by mid October. Because of its deeper root penetration the biennial is more effective in improving soil tilth.

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H. G. Diesslin, Director, Lafayette, Indiana. Issued in furtherance of the Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.