Bartolo

BLADDER CLOVER
Trifolium spumosum

Seeding Rate	**kg/ha**
Dryland	8 - 14
High Rainfall/Irrigation	15 - 20

Seed Treatment Goldstrike®

Description
Adaptable over wide soils types, very high levels of hard seed

Market Segment/Target
Regenerating annual pastures

Features
Adaptable to a wide range of soil types
Some tolerance to RLEM
Very high hard seed levels

Benefits
Excellent base legume for regenerating pastures
Suitable for low rainfall pastures
Winter forage production

Range	
Low Bloat™	N
Super N Fixer™	N
XtraLeaf®	N

SEED AGRONOMY TABLE

Maturity	N
Hard Seed Level (description)	High
Waterlogging Tolerance	Fair
Flowering	105 days

Hard Seed Level 1 = Least Hard 10 = Most Hard
Burr Burial Strength 1 = Very Weak 10 = Very Strong

ESTABLISHMENT GUARANTEE™
At S&W Seed Company Australia we're so confident about our seed genetics and seed quality, we will replace seed at half the original purchase price if it fails to establish satisfactorily in the first thirty days*

STRENGTHS
Productive annual forage tolerant of heavy grazing in medium-low rainfall areas
Suited to self-regenerating ley or short-term phase farming systems
Protection against false breaks
Very well adapted to mildly acid and alkaline sandy-loam and loam soils
High level of hard seed enables regeneration after cropping
Ideal companion plant in mixtures with other legumes such as medic, subterranean clover or serradella

LIMITATIONS
Not adapted to waterlogged soils

PASTURE TYPE AND USE
Bladder clover is a pasture legume for grazing in ley or short-term phase farming systems

WHERE IT GROWS
Rainfall: Suited to regions with 325 to 500 millimetres annual rainfall. With a predominantly autumn-winter-spring distribution.

Soils: Bladder clover grows on a range of soils with pH ranging from 5.0 to 8.0 (CaCl2) and soil textures, provided they have reasonable fertility. Not tolerant of prolonged waterlogging or salinity.

Temperature: Susceptible to severe frosts.

*Terms and conditions apply.

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PLANT DESCRIPTION

Plant: Bladder clover is a pasture legume for grazing in ley or short-term phase farming systems.

ESTABLISHMENT

Sowing/Planting rates in mixtures: 1 to 5 kilograms per hectare. Ensure seed is Goldstrike® treated with other pasture legumes.

Sowing/Planting rates as single species: 10 to 15 kilograms per hectare. Ensure seed is Goldstrike® treated. Sow shallow at 0.5 centimetres. Rolling after sowing is an advantage.

Sowing time: Sow bladder clover as close to the break of season in autumn as possible.

Inoculation: Goldstrike® treated. The use of Goldstrike® seed treatment is recommended to reduce damage from insects at seedling stages.

Fertiliser: Sow with 100 to 150 kilograms per hectare superphosphate, or super/potash if on sand soils.

MANAGEMENT

Grazing/Cutting: Can be heavily grazed in winter. Reduce stocking rate at flowering time.

Ability to Spread: Many seeds of bladder clover survive ingestion by sheep and can be easily spread around paddocks.

Weed Potential: There have not been reported cases of bladder clover growing within native vegetation.

Major Pests: Bladder clover is moderately tolerant to blue green aphid and lucerne flea.

Major Diseases: It has little or no sensitivity to clover scorch (Kabatiella caulivora) disease. Occasional infections of pseudopeziza leafspot have been observed in high rainfall areas.

Herbicide Susceptibility: Bladder clover is sensitive to many of the more common broadleaf herbicides including Bromoxynil, Spinnaker® and Raptor®. Broadstrike® appears reasonably safe and Tigrex® may offer an intermediate weed control option. Grass weeds can be safely controlled with common grass-selective herbicides.

ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Feeding value: The feeding value of bladder clover is similar to subterranean clover. Digestibility of bladder clover in spring is usually around 82 per cent, with 22 per cent crude protein, these values decrease with senescence. Grazing trials have shown no differences in live weight change or wool growth between sheep grazing bladder and subterranean clovers.

Palatability: Readily eaten by livestock. Anecdotal evidence is that pods are not readily sought by livestock.

Production Potential: The quantity of forage produced by bladder clover is generally equivalent or better than current pasture options. Peak dry matter yields in small ungrazed experimental swards have ranged between 4 and 7 tonne per hectare.

Livestock Disorders/Toxicity: No livestock disorders have been reported but, as with most legumes, could cause bloat in cattle in very pure bladder clover swards. Levels of formononetin (0.015 per cent) and genistein (0.002 per cent) in bladder clover are lower than in subterranean clover cv Dalkeith and are unlikely to cause a phyto-oestrogen effect in grazing animals.

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