

RED CLOVER LEYS

Red clover leys are a popular way to increase protein content of forage whilst reducing nitrogen fertiliser use. **Red clover** captures atmospheric nitrogen (N) from the air and releases it into the soil, benefiting the clover itself as well as companion plants. Nodules on the roots contain Rhizobia bacteria which **convert the atmospheric N into plant available nitrate in the soil**. There is potential for red clover to **supply up to 200kg of N per hectare**, which is the equivalent of over 230kg of AN per acre or 175kg UREA per acre.

The benefits don't stop there, the high protein and mineral content is excellent for finishing lambs and producing high levels of meat and milk. Red clover leys can be grazed or ensiled but good management is crucial to preserve persistency, which can be up-to 4 years.

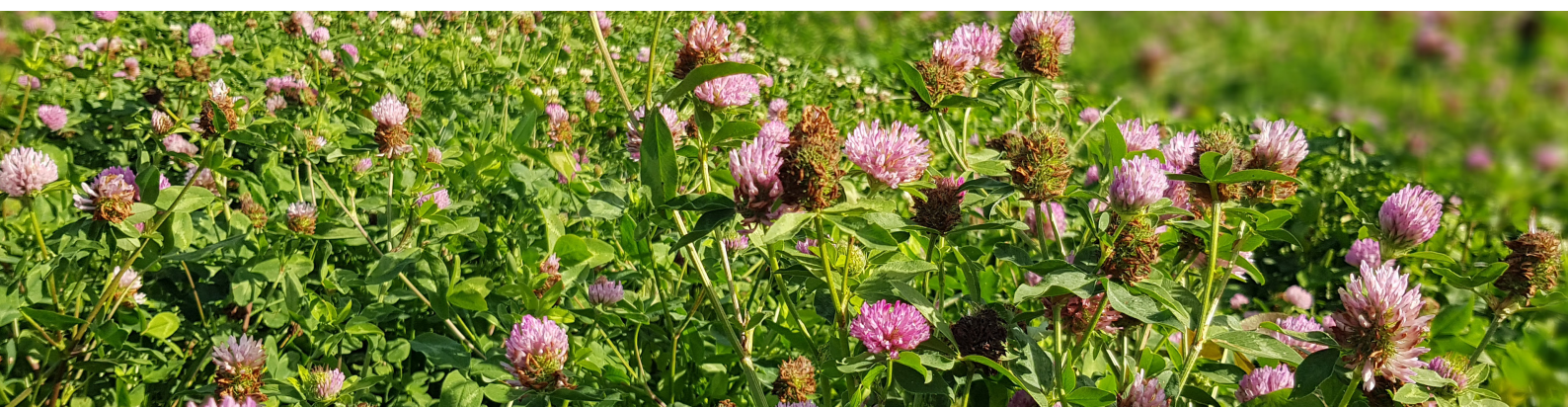
CARING FOR YOUR RED CLOVER

Unlike white clover which grow from stolons and rhizomes, red clover grows from a crown which can be damaged if not managed correctly. 3 to 4 cuts per year can be achieved and aftermath grazing for fattening lambs offers exceptional daily live weight gains. Aftermath and into winter grazing height should be 4-6cm and cutting heights should be 7-8cm minimum. The protein rich leaf matter is prone to shatter, so avoid over-handling during ensiling and due to the low DM wilting may take a little longer.

Applications of **nitrogen fertiliser aren't necessary**; however, there is a P&K requirement and maintaining indexes of 3 is advisable.

RED TURBO is a 1-2 year high performance cutting ley capable of providing high yields of quality forage with little applied nitrogen.

MEGAMIX is a versatile dual purpose ley with white and red clover for high protein, quality forage production.



PRODUCT NEWS

AGRO-VITAL EFFICIENT 28

When crops are suffering from Nitrogen deficiency, foliar N products are a fantastic way to get nutrient directly into the crop fast. **Agro-Vital's EfficieNt 28** is an excellent choice. The product is applied directly onto the plant, it is easily taken up by the leaves with up to **99% efficiency**. This means, **7kg N/ha (20L/ha) of EfficieNt 28** will do the same job as 40kg N/ha in granular fertiliser form.

80% of the Nitrogen provided is in the form of a urea-polymer which:

- Provides a **phased N release** for the plant that breaks down over 4 to 6 weeks as readily useable form (NH₂).
- Has **minimal losses** through volatilisation
- Excellent crop safety with **zero scorch**

Maize plants require **60% of the nitrogen supply between 8 leaf stage and tassling**, often long after the crop becomes inaccessible. EfficientNt-28 is an excellent choice for maize, offering a continued supply of N when the plant needs it.

This product can be applied on it's own or in a **tank mix** with many commonly used herbicides and fungicides, making it a versatile and flexible product.



TREADING THE TRAMLINES...

It's been a challenging year for arable crops, but as the combines start rolling things are looking surprisingly good. Early reports are encouraging, and although significant areas have been lost to flooding, those that have survived are yielding better than expected.



Soils have been depleted of nutrient this season and it may well be a game of catch-up to build back levels of key nutrients.

In autumn sown cereals, many pre-emergence applications were missed resulting in heavier than normal weed infestations in some crops and a higher burden of grass weeds to deal with this autumn. Taking note of which grass species were present in the crop is crucial to build a strategy of control before the next crop is planted.

Maize has struggled in some areas, especially when drilled late or on less favourable sites. Variety choice will inevitably play a big role this year at harvest and nutrient supply may need to be supplemented to build biomass in such a short time.

Root crops including fodder beet have been off to a flying start and green leaf areas are high. An eye should be kept on crops for disease and appropriate fungicide treatments made. With crops growing well, nutrition demand will be high and maintaining a balanced supply is essential.

COMPANY NEWS...

We'd like to extend our congratulations to Katie Evans for successfully completed her BASIS Nominated Store Keeper's course earlier this year. She is now responsible for the safe storage of all plant protection products at Powys Leys Ltd., ensuring that we adhere to legislative requirements and guidelines.

Now Summer is well and truly upon us, we are looking forward to seeing some friendly faces at the upcoming local shows. Please pop in and say hello and have a drink on us! We'll be at the following shows:

- August 3rd Oswestry
- August 10th Llanfyllin
- August 24th Berriew

