

CORNER POST

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Overseeding Clovers 101

Overseeding clovers into poor producing or grass-dominated pastures by broadcasting seed in late winter is a common and typically successful practice. Overseeding involves risk, not the least of which is precipitation. While you can't control weather, there are some key management practices to increase the likelihood of a good clover stand by overseeding in the upcoming months:

- Overgraze areas where overseeding will take place. Intentional "grazing abuse" provides openings for clover emergence, and sets back the grass the following spring enough to allow the clover to further establish. To enhance success, leaving cattle in pasture a few days after overseeding can help even more, as long as the pasture isn't too wet. Hoof traffic will help the seed reach the desired depth for germination.
- Remove cattle from pasture before clover seedlings emerge, but bring back to graze down the grasses when grass is 8-12" high. This should be a flash grazing so the clover is just below the level of grazing. You may lose some clover, but the few seedlings lost are far less than the number of seedlings that would be lost to competition for light and moisture if the established grasses are not grazed.





FF 9615 Red Clover Trial Results

In 2015 we sent our proprietary FF 9615 3-Year Red Clover seed to Penn State University's forage variety trials to compare production against other new and leading red and white clovers in the industry.

To view the results from the 2015 clover trials being maintained at Penn State University, visit:

<http://bit.ly/2n7qGl2>

We believed it would do well. It was developed in the Midwest for use in the Midwest and East, and this variety has demonstrated excellent forage quality while persisting into a third year, thanks to excellent disease protection. FF 9615 has proven to work over a wide range of soil types and conditions and can be used in hay, silage or grazing systems.

About The Corner Post

The Corner Post is a periodic email series with timely forage tips from the agronomic experts at Forage First and La Crosse Seed. If you have a question you'd like us to answer, contact us: info@laxseed.com or 800.356.7333

