



## Kura Clover

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Varietal Trials Results, January 2006



Kura clover is a relatively low-growing, spreading perennial legume. It is best used as a grazing

crop because of its growth habit and high moisture content. Kura clover can tolerate frequent grazing and has consistently high forage quality, resulting in high animal performance. Kura clover can induce bloat in grazing ruminants and may be best suited for planting in mixtures with cool-season grasses such as reed canarygrass and orchardgrass.

Kura clover is persistent once established but has poor seedling vigor, slightly less than birdsfoot trefoil. As with other legumes, kura clover requires inoculation with the proper rhizobium to in-

sure atmospheric nitrogen fixation. Kura clover has great potential for soil cover and erosion control in agricultural and nonagricultural areas because of its excellent persistence and spreading growth habit.

Summary tables include variety trials seeded in 1999 and 2002 at Rosemount and in 2002 at Grand Rapids. Thirty pounds of nitrogen was applied at time of seeding to assist early growth, and is recommended for initial stand establishment. Trials were harvested three times per year at Rosemount and twice per year at Grand Rapids.

**Dry matter yield, in tons per acre, and vigor of kura clover varieties seeded at two locations.**

| Variety  | Vigor*   | Rosemount |           | Grand Rapids |
|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
|          | 05/01/03 | 2001-2002 | 2003-2005 | 2003-2004    |
| Cossack  | 6.0      | 4.4       | 4.1       | 1.1          |
| Endura   | 3.3      | 4.3       | 4.8       | 1.2          |
| NF-93 C2 | 5.5      | 4.6       | 4.7       | 0.9          |
| Rhizo    | 2.8      | 4.1       | 4.0       | 0.8          |
| LSD 5%   | 1.0      | 0.5       | 0.5       | 0.1          |

\* Vigor, Rosemount; 1 = least, 9 = best.

### Kura Clover Planting Rate and Date

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bushel Weight, Pounds        | 60                     |
| Seeds/Pound                  | 215,000                |
| Planting Rate, Pounds/Acre   |                        |
| Alone                        | 10                     |
| In Mixtures                  | 6                      |
| Planting Rate, Seeds/Sq. Ft. |                        |
| Alone                        | 50                     |
| In Mixtures                  | 30                     |
| Planting Date                | Early Spring or Summer |