

KURA CLOVER

Kura clover is a relatively low growing, spreading perennial legume. It is best used as a grazing crop because of its growth habit and plant structure. 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.

Kura clover is persistent once established, but has poorer seedling vigor than birdsfoot trefoil. Kura clover requires inoculation with the proper rhizobium to insure adequate biological nitrogen fixation. Because of its excellent persistence and spreading growth habit, Kura clover has great potential for soil cover and erosion control in agricultural and nonagricultural areas.

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 development. Trials were harvested three times per year at Rosemount and twice per year at Grand Rapids.

Kura Clover Planting Rate and Date

Bushel Weight, Pounds	65
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

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

Variety	Seedlot	Vigor* 5/1/03	Rosemount		Grand Rapids
			2001-2002	2003-2004	2003-2004
Cossack	3209	6.0	4.5	4.1	1.1
Endura	3085	3.3	4.3	4.5	1.2
NF-93 C2	3425	5.5	4.6	4.5	1.0
Rhizo	3086	2.8	4.1	3.8	0.8
LSD 5%		1.0	0.5	0.4	0.1

* Vigor data are from Rosemount only, 1 = least, 9 = best vigor