Instructions

For best results, complete all steps in the order shown.



PLANTING DATES

Stay within the recommended planting dates for your area as shown on the back of the bag. Planting dates are also posted at whitetailinstitute.com. *Do not plant during hot, dry weather.*

SITE SELECTION Select a site with medium to heavy soil that holds moisture, and that receives at least 4 hours of filtered or indirect sunlight a day. Avoid areas that don't hold moisture well such as hillsides and sites with soils that drain quickly.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

For Planting
- Disk or tiller
- Broadcast seeder
- Drag implement or cultipacker

For Forage Maintenance
- Mower
- spray equipment

Seedbed Preparation Instructions

If possible, perform Step 1 several months in advance of planting.

1. **Adjust soil pH if low.** If possible, perform a laboratory soil test for "establishment" of "giant white clover". Add any lime recommended in the lab's report to the seedbed. If you don't perform a laboratory soil test, then add 2 tons of lime per acre. **Thoroughly disk or till the lime into the top 3 or 4 inches of the seedbed.** *Do not skip this step! Making sure soil is at optimum soil pH before you plant is extremely important!*

2. **Optional Considerations for New or Weedy Ground:** If grass and weed competition is heavy, consider disking or tilling the seedbed again two weeks after Step 1 tillage. If grass and weed competition still remains heavy, consider spraying a Roundup™ type glyphosate herbicide before planting.

Planting Instructions

3. **If necessary to loosen the soil:** Disk or till the seedbed.

4. **Fertilize the seedbed.** Add fertilizer to the seedbed as recommended in your soil-test report. If a laboratory soil test wasn't done, then add 400 pounds of 6-24-24 or equivalent fertilizer per acre. *Do not skip this step! Making sure soil is at optimum fertility before you plant extremely important!*

5. **Disk or harrow.** Lightly mix the fertilizer into the top few inches of the soil.

6. **Smooth the seedbed before seeding.** After disking or harrowing in the fertilizer, and before putting out the seed, smooth the seedbed with a weighted fence-type drag (or cultipacker, if available). Try to eliminate cracks the seed might fall into and be buried too deep

7. **Put out the seed.** Broadcast the seed at the rate shown on the front of the bag.

8. **DO NOT COVER THE SEED**. If you used a drag to smooth the seedbed before you put the seed out (Step 6), then do nothing further after you put out the seed. If you used a cultipacker in Step 6, then cultipack the seedbed again after putting out the seed – this will help establish good contact between the seed and the surface of the soil without covering the seed.

After planting, consider placing a small wire basket over a portion of your planting to protect it from grazing. As the forage grows, compare the height of the forage inside and outside the basket to gauge grazing pressure.

Forage Maintenance Recommendations

Imperial Whitetail Clover is a high quality food-plot planting that is capable of producing heavy growth and lasting for years with Mother Nature's cooperation and a little maintenance on your part each spring. While these Maintenance Recommendations aren't required, they are ***strongly recommended*** *for ensuring top performance and longevity from your planting.*



GRASS CONTROL: Spray Arrest MAX™ selective grass herbicide and Surefire Crop Oil Plus™ to control any labeled grasses that appear. Spray as soon as labeled grasses have started to actively grow (visibly increase in height) each spring and summer. *(While not required, adding Surefire Crop Oil Plus to the Arrest MAX spray tank is highly recommended to maximize the herbicides effectiveness when the grass you want to control is perennial and/or mature.)*



BROADLEAF-WEED CONTROL: Spray Slay™ herbicide and Surefire Crop Oil Plus to control labeled broadleaf weeds in established stands of Imperial Whitetail Clover, and other established clover or alfalfa stand. *A surfactant or oil such as Surefire Crop Oil Plus must be tank mixed into the Slay spray tank by the user in order for slay to work*.

MOWING: To help with weed control, mow the plot anytime you see anything in the plot (the forage plants, grasses or weeds) starting to flower or put on seed heads. Mow only enough off the plot to stop the flowering process. *Do not mow the forage plants lower than 6-8", and only remove an inch or two off the forage plants*. Your goal is to stop that process to help keep weeds from reproducing and help keep energy and nutrients in your forage plants. *Do not mow when conditions are excessively hot or droughty*.

SOIL PH AND FERTILITY: If possible, it's best to perform a laboratory soil test every year or two to monitor soil pH and fertility. Have the lab test your soil for "maintenance" of a "giant white clover" planting.

Fertilize at least once a year according to the recommendations in your soil-test report. If no soil test is performed, then fertilize the stand each year with a total of 400 pounds of 0-20-20 or equivalent fertilizer per acre. If 0-20-20 isn't available, then use a blended fertilizer with the lowest level of Nitrogen (the first number on the bag) as possible. Fertilizer may be applied all at once, or half in the spring and the other half in the fall. ***Do not apply fertilizer when the plants are wet or damp.***

Also consider top-dressing the plot with lime every year or two as needed to help keep soil pH within neutral range.

Whitetail Clover Planting Dates





ZONE	DATES
1	Call 800-688-3030x2 for dates
2	Apr 1 - July 1
3	Apr 15 - June 15 Aug 1 - Sept 1
4	Coastal: Feb 1 - Mar 15 Coastal: Sept 1 - Oct 15 Southern Piedmont: Feb 15 - Apr 1 Southern Piedmont: Aug 15 - Oct 1 Mountain Valleys: Mar 1 - Apr 15 Mountain Valleys: Aug 1 - Sept 15
5	Feb 1 - Apr 1 Aug 1 - Sept 30
6	Feb 1 - Apr 15 Sept 1 - Nov 1
7	North: Mar 15 - May 1 & Aug 1 - Sept 15 South: Mar 1 - Apr 15 & Aug 15 - Oct 15
8	Apr 1 - June 15 July 15 - Sept 5
9	Apr 1 - May 15 Aug 1 - Sept 15
10	Mar 20 - May 15 Aug 1 - Sept 15
11	Sept 15 - Nov 15

ZONE	DATES
12	Feb 5 - Mar 1 North: Sept 5 - Nov 15 South: Sept 25 - Nov 15
13	Feb 15 - Apr 1 Sept 1 - Oct 30
14	North: Sept 25 - Nov 25 South: Sept 25 - Nov 15
15	Feb 1 - Mar 1 Coastal: Sept 25 - Oct 15 Piedmont: Sept 1 - Oct 5 Mountain Valleys: Aug 25 - Oct 15
16	North: Sept 15 - Nov 25 South: Oct 5 - Nov 30
17	Mar 1 - May 15 Aug 1 - Sept 15
18	Feb 1 - Apr 15 Aug 20 - Sept 30
19	Apr 15 - June 15 July 1 - Aug 15
20	May 15 - July 1
21	May 1 - June 15 July 1 - Aug 15
22	May 15 - July 1