

Recommended grass and clover varieties 2025-2026

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Summary

- The varieties listed overleaf are recommended for use in Scotland
- First choice varieties are highlighted by capitals
- Recently introduced first choice varieties are provisional ratings, pending further trials currently in progress

1. Introduction

The agricultural industry in Scotland is co-operating in a scheme to ensure the continuation of the SRUC Recommended List of grass and clover varieties. The scheme, with the support of NFUS, AIC, SSTA and BSPB, involves a contribution for every kilogram of herbage seed sold.

Merchants participating in the scheme have exclusive access to the detailed SRUC information on herbage varieties. Participating merchants display the special SRUC logo opposite on seed bags, and promotional literature.

Within each grass species, varieties are listed in order of heading date, i.e. 50% ear emergence. This is the date when ears are seen on 50% of the fertile stems. These dates, relative to 1st May, give the Relative Ear Emergence (REE). Thus, in an average year, the early perennial ryegrass variety AberTorch (T) (REE 20) heads on the 20th May, while the late variety Glenrock (REE 52) heads on 21st June, four weeks later. The actual heading dates vary according to season and altitude but the relative order of heading remains fairly constant. Perennial ryegrass varieties have the widest range of heading dates and are divided into three maturity groups – early, intermediate and late. The range within each group can be 12 days or more. Timothy varieties similarly are in three groups, cocksfoot has two groups, early and late, while Italian and hybrid ryegrasses are now each considered as one group. Within each species there is a close relationship between heading date and important characteristics such as seasonality of growth, herbage quality and persistency. The REE value is shown for the earliest and latest variety within each blocked grouping.



White clovers are listed in order of leaf size. The small leaved are prostrate types, persistent and suited to continuous grazing, while large leaved are more erect and better suited to cutting or rotational grazing. The leaf size, relative to Grasslands Huia, is shown for the smallest and largest within each group.

Red clovers are listed alphabetically within two flowering groups, early and late.

Tetraploid varieties are indicated by (T) after the name.

For more detailed information on variety attributes and performance, and their use in seed mixtures, contact your local SAC Consulting adviser or a participating merchant.

Perennial Ryegrass	Early	Perennial Ryegrass	Inter	Perennial Ryegrass	Late	Italian Ryegrass	
<i>REE up to 30</i>	<i>REE</i>	<i>REE from 31-44</i>	<i>REE</i>	<i>REE over 44</i>	<i>REE</i>	Fabio (T)	28
ABERTORCH (T)	20	FINTONA (T)	32	ABERSEVERN	45	DORIKE (T)	29
GENESIS		BOYNE	33	WETHERBY	46	GEMINI (T)	
MOYOLA	25	TOLLYMORE (T)	34	ABERESK (new)		Hunter	
BARWAVE (T)	28	Sheridan		ABERFORTH (T)		MERIBEL	32
Glasker		BANBRIDGE (T)		BALLINTOY (T)		BIGDYL	
		SEAGOE (T)		BIJOU (T)		Fox	
		STRANGFORD	35	CALLAN		Muriello	
		RACCOON		RICHHILL (T)		Itaka	
		GALGORM	36	BALLYVOY	47	BARIMAX(T)	34
		BELVEDERE (new)		ABERTEST		ALAMO	
		ABERCLYDE (T)		ARDRESS (T) (new)		MESSINA (T)	
		Aston Conqueror		DRIFT (T)		TOREADOR (new)	
		Ritchie (T)		GLENFIELD (T)		EXOTYL	
		ASTRIAN (T)		GRACEHILL (T)		Pinaco	
		NIFTY		ALFONSO (T)		Lemtal RvP	35
		MOIRA	38	DUNDROD		MELPRIMO	
		GOLDWELL		ANGORAT (new)		DOLORES	36
		CASTLEWELLAN (T) (new)		MEIDUNO (T)			
		Glenariff		Weldone (T)			
		ABERWOLF	40	BOMIUM			
		ABERZEUS		SCARTOP (new)			
		Arelia		ABERAVON	47		
		ABERMAGIC	42	SPECTRE (T)	48		
		GOSFORD		Oakpark			
		Diwan (T)		Lathorn (T)			
		AGASKA	43	Hurricane (T)			
		ABERGREEN		FROGMORE (new)			
		ABERTWEED		BANDON	48		
		DUNLUCE (T)		ABERGAIN (T)			
		ABERSPEY (T)		KILLYLEA (T)			
		CALEDON (T)		GRAPHIC			
		DIORAMA (T)		CRAIGOWEN (new)			
		Gusto		TODDINGTON	49		
		PENSEL (T)	44	ASPECT (T)			
				NASHOTA (T)			
				Glenarm			
				OPTIMUS (T)			
				DRUMBO	50		
				CROSSGAR			
				ABERBITE (T)			
				TWYMAX (T)	51		
				ABERBANN			
				Aston Princess (T)			
				ASTONCHIEFTAIN	52		
				SWAN			
				GLENROCK			
				ABERLIFFEY (new)			
				TIMUCO			
				Xenon (T)			
				DELICADIO (T)	53		
				ABERPLENTIFUL (T)			
				Delika			
				ABERCHOICE	55		
				ABERLEE			
				EVOCATIVE			
				ABERDON	58		
				BOWIE	62		

Hybrid Ryegrass			White Clover			Red Clover		
ABERECHO (T)	27		Small			Early		
Solid (T)			Aberace	41		AberClaret		
Enduro (T)			ABER S184	70		Fearga		
ASTONCRUSADER (T)	32		GRASSLANDS DEMAND			Merula		
HYMER (T)			ABERPEARL			Milvus		
PIROL			RIVENDEL	82		Amos (T)		
ABEREDGE (T)			Medium			Magellan (T)		
ABEREVE (T)	34		CRUSADER	85		Diplomat		
BARCLAMP	39		ABERHERALD	89		Global		
			Grasslands Bounty			Merviot		
Timothy			IONA			Atlantis (T)		
REE up to 55		Early	Grasslands Tribute			Ganymed		
SCOTS	51		Coolfin			Harmonie		
Presto			ABERDAI	99		RGT Java		
DOLINA			ABERSWAN			Sinope		
COMER	53		Grasslands Huia			Late		
PROMESSE			BUDDY			Altaswede		
Erecta RvP			MERWI	104				
COMTAL	55		Large					
REE 56-61		Inter	KATY	110				
BARONAISE	58		AberSirius					
REE over 61		Late	RURU (new)					
			VIOLIN					
Cocksfoot			ALICE	124				
REE up to 28		Early	BARBLANCA					
REE over 28		Late	DUBLIN					
SPARTA 29			DUNGLOE					
			MUNIDA (new)					
Festulolium			ARAN	159				
AberNiche	37		CLODAGH					
			BRIANNA	191				



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