

Recommended grass and clover varieties 2025-2026

National Advice Hub
T: 0300 323 0161
E: advice@fas.scot
W: www.fas.scot

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>		
ABERTORCH (T)	20	FINTONA (T)	32	ABERSEVERN	45	Fabio (T)	28
GENESIS		BOYNE	33	WETHERBY	46	DORIKE (T)	29
MOYOLA	25	TOLLYMORE (T)	34	ABERESK (new)		GEMINI (T)	
BARWAVE (T)	28	Sheridan		ABERFORTH (T)		Hunter	
Glasker		BANBRIDGE (T)		BALLINTOY (T)		MERIBEL	32
		SEAGOE (T)		BIJOU (T)		BIGDYL	
		STRANGFORD	35	CALLAN		Fox	
		RACCOON		RICHHILL (T)		Muriello	
		GALGORM	36	BALLYVOY	47	Itaka	
		BELVEDERE (new)		ABERTEST		BARIMAX(T)	34
		ABERCLYDE (T)		ARDRESS (T) (new)		ALAMO	
		Aston Conqueror		DRIFT (T)		MESSINA (T)	
		Ritchie (T)		GLENFIELD (T)		TOREADOR (new)	
		ASTRIAN (T)		GRACEHILL (T)		EXOTYL	
		NIFTY		ALFONSO (T)		Pinaco	
		MOIRA	38	DUNDROD		Lemtal RvP	35
		GOLDWELL		ANGORAT (new)		MELPRIMO	
		CASTLEWELLAN (T) (new)		MEIDUNO (T)		DOLORES	36
		Glenariff		Weldone (T)			
		ABERWOLF	40	BOMIUM			
		ABERZEUS		SCARTOP (new)			
		Arelio		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

ABERECHO (T)	27
Solid (T)	
Enduro (T)	
ASTONCRUSADER (T)	32
HYMER (T)	
PIROL	
ABEREDGE (T)	
ABEREVE (T)	34
BARCLAMP	39

Timothy

REE up to 55	Early
SCOTS	51
Presto	
DOLINA	
COMER	53
PROMESSE	
Erecta RvP	
COMTAL	55
REE 56-61	Inter
BARONNAISE	58
REE over 61	Late

Cocksfoot

REE up to 28	Early
SPARTA 29	

Festulolium

AberNiche	37
-----------	----

White Clover

Small	
Aberace	41
ABER S184	70
GRASSLANDS DEMAND	
ABERPEARL	
RIVENDEL	82

Medium

CRUSADER	85
ABERHERALD	89
Grasslands Bounty	
IONA	
Grasslands Tribute	
Coolfin	
ABERDAI	99
ABERSWAN	
Grasslands Huia	
BUDDY	
MERWI	104

Large

KATY	110
AberSirius	
RURU (new)	
VIOLIN	
ALICE	124
BARBLANCA	
DUBLIN	
DUNGLOE	
MUNIDA (new)	
ARAN	159
CLODAGH	
BRIANNA	191

Red Clover

Early
AberClaret
Fearga
Merula
Milvus
Amos (T)
Magellan (T)
Diplomat
Global
Merviot
Atlantis (T)
Ganymed
Harmonie
RGT Java
Sinope

Late

Altaswede



Authors:

D Lawson, Grassland Specialist
SRUC, Sandpiper House, Ruthvenfield Road, Inveralmond Ind. Estate, Perth, PH1 3EE
01738 636611 / email: david.lawson@sruc.ac.uk

W Harrison
SRUC, JF Niven Building, Auchincruive, Ayr, KA6 5HW

G Carr
SRUC, Ferguson Building, Craibstone Estate, Aberdeen, AB21 9YA