

# White clover

*Trifolium repens* L.



## Life cycle

Mat-forming perennial.

## Leaves

Alternate, compound with three stalkless, egg-shaped leaflets. Leaflets are smooth with small teeth along the margins, a slight notch at the tip and usually a whitish V-shaped watermark.



White clover flower head.

Trifoliolate leaves are found on long petioles that arise perpendicular to the prostrate stems.

## Stems

Plants spread by prostrate, creeping stolons that root at the nodes and are generally smooth.

## Flowers and fruit

White or pinkish white, globe-shaped flower heads occur at the ends of long flower stalks. Each head may contain up to 85 individual flowers. Fruit are small, three- to six-seeded pods.

## Reproduction

Seeds and stolons.



Trifoliolate leaf of white clover.



White clover stolon.

## Similar weeds

### Red clover (*T. pratense* L.)

Differs by having a more robust size and upright growth, red to purple flower heads, and larger, usually hairy trifoliolate leaves.



Red clover flower head.



Trifoliolate leaf of red clover.

**Fabaceae (Legume family)**