

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



White clover flower head.

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



Trifoliolate leaf of white clover.

**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.



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.