

Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

B. Legumes

1. Clover

Trifolium repens L. (white clover) cv. Irrigation

Reg. No. B-1a-2

Registered prior to December 1971

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Origin

An ecotype which developed in the irrigation districts of northern Victoria and was selected by the Victorian Department of Agriculture (2,4). Has also been known as Victorian Irrigation. Was certified by the Victorian Department of Agriculture in 1936 and the New South Wales Department of Agriculture in 1952-53.

Morphological description

Cv. Irrigation is very similar to cv. Grasslands Huia in size and form. It has been described as a little larger-leaved than that cultivar (3), and also as somewhat more prostrate and stoloniferous with shorter flower stalks and petioles. However, there are no real or significant morphological differences between these two cultivars (1). It is not as coarse but leafier and more stoloniferous than cv. Ladino (6). Cyanophoric number fairly high (7).

Agronomic characters

Similar in agronomic characteristics to cv. Grasslands Huia. In Victoria reported to perform better than Grasslands Huia with irrigation under conditions of high summer temperature and low humidity (1,2,4), but also reported no better than Grasslands Huia under these conditions in South Australia (5). Under irrigation in warmer summer districts is less productive than Louisiana in winter (8) and Ladino in Summer (5).

Under moderate to high rainfall conditions it performs well but is less competitive than Grasslands Huia in grass-clover mixtures (7). Its performance under natural rainfall is also more variable than that of the New Zealand variety (1). Nodulation requirements the same as Grasslands Huia.

References

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