

# Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

## B. Legumes

### 1. Clover

#### *Trifolium hirtum* All. (rose clover) cv. Sirint

Reg. No. B-1e-2

Registered prior to December 1971

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#### Origin

Derived from a single, exceptionally early-flowering plant selected by E.T. Bailey of CSIRO, in 1959, from an experimental plot of commercial Western Australian seed which had originated from seed imported from California (1). Seed first released in 1964 and certified by the Department of Agriculture of Western Australia in 1965.

#### Morphological description (3,4)

Growth habit is rather more erect than that of cv. Kondinin, and a little "stemmier". The leaflets which are often lighter green than Kondinin have, at the middle of the leaflet, a pale crescent, which is bordered above by a conspicuous narrow chocolate or reddish zone or line and a chocolate central point (2). Seeds light straw - to buff-coloured; approx. 295,000 per kg.

#### Agronomic characters (2-4)

Very-early flowering, almost 3 weeks earlier than Kondinin. Under Western Australian conditions commences to flower at the beginning of September.

In trials at a number of sites in the wheat belt of Western Australia, Sirint gave, when ungrazed, much the same average dry matter yields as Kondinin in the 280-350 mm rainfall zone but not quite as good yields in the 380-480 mm zone; it gave rather better yields than Geraldton sub clover and Cyprus barrel medic on both heavy and light soils. When subjected to a frequent cutting regime, however, it yielded less than Kondinin and Geraldton and no more than Cyprus at a 356 mm rainfall location.

The early flowering and seed maturation of Sirint would seem to make it more suitable for the lower rainfall areas of the wheat belt. Its nodulation requirements are the same as for cv. Kondinin.

#### References

1. Anon. (1963). New plants for southern pastures. *Rur. Res. CSIRO* **45**, 6-13.
2. Bailey, E.T. (1965). Rose and cupped clover trials in Western Australia. CSIRO Aust. Plant Introd. Rev. No. 2(1), pp. 19-26.
3. Bailey, E.T. (1966). Rose clover; description, use, and varietal differences in rose clover in Western Australia. *J. Agric. West. Aust.* **7**(4th Ser.), 170-5.
4. Bailey, E.T. (1967). Personal communication. CSIRO West. Aust. Regional Lab., Perth.