

# Clover Identification Guide

## Learn What Clover Looks Like

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### OVERVIEW

Yes, Clover Is a Weed



Clover is a weed that can take over your yard with small flowers and petal shaped leaves. While clover can be grown purposefully, in a deer food plot for example, many people consider clover a nuisance, and any unwanted plant is considered a weed. White clover, sometimes called Dutch clover, is very common especially in cool season grasses.

It's a perennial broadleaf weed and is often found in lawns, fields, ditches, and other low-maintenance areas.

### Appearance



Clover is easy to identify:

- Each stem has three small leaves (or leaflets) that are petal shaped and have a white "v" or crescent on each leaf, and are about a half inch long.
- White clover will usually bloom between early spring and late fall. The flowers are very small and are white or light pink.

The small blooms form a spherical cluster that looks like a small ball of white petals.

- Clover is a low growing plant and the stems creep along the top surface, although the stems that branch off can reach up to a foot tall.
- They have a shallow root system and don't tolerate drought conditions well.



White Clover  
*Trifolium repens*



Common Wood Sorrel  
*Oxalis acetosella*



Black Medic  
*Medicago lupulina*

The leaves of white clover (*Trifolium repens*) are more circular than some varieties, and can be confused with other weeds including the heart-shaped leaves of common [oxalis/woodsorrel](#) (*Oxalis acetocella*) and the oval-shaped leaves of [black medic](#) (*Medicago lupulina*). Note the differences in leaf shapes shown above while identifying weeds on your property.