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.



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 ofblack medic (Medicago lupulina). Note the differences in leaf shapes shown above while identifying weeds on your property.