



Key Features

- Late season Persian - approx 165 days to flowering
- Well suited to irrigation and summer rainfall
- Suitable for multiple grazings and/or hay/silage cuts
- Used for fodder cropping and HDL mixes
- Improved resistance to Rust compared to Maral/Shaftal
- Superior and genetically pure replacement for Shaftal
- Suitable to mix with winter active, short term ryegrass
- Long season growth

Key Benefits

- Laser is well adapted to various soil types, tolerating both waterlogging and mild soil salinity. This allows it to be used in a variety of regions throughout Australia.
- Laser is a large improvement over Shaftal, resulting in higher herbage production and Rust resistance.

Description

Laser (*Trifolium resupinatum* var. *majus*) is a soft seeded Persian Clover with a semi erect to erect growth habit that demonstrates late season maturity. This late maturity makes Laser well suited to areas with a long growing season. Laser produces large numbers of thin walled, hollowed stems, which contribute to the erect and bushy appearance. It is also well adapted to various soil types, tolerant to waterlogging and mild soil salinity. Laser was developed as a superior replacement for Maral, providing improved herbage production and Rust resistance. Laser is very palatable, highly digestible (16-24% crude protein) and is well suited to multiple hay cuts, grazing or silage production. It can be successfully used in pasture mixes with ryegrass or oats to increase winter production. Laser Persian Clover is an effective disease break in cropping rotation and has the ability to fix high levels of soil nitrogen. Laser Persian Clover will also assist in the management of problem weeds, including those that are herbicide resistant.

Disease Resistance/Tolerance

Laser is resistant to Clover Scorch (*Kabatiella caulivora*) and has low resistance to Rust (*Uromyces trifolii-repentis*) on stems and leaves.

Pest Resistance

Persian Clovers are susceptible to attack from Lucerne Flea (*Sminthurus viridis*) and Red Legged Earth Mites (*Halotydeus destructor*). Control measures will need to take place as required.

Variety Management/Agronomy

Laser is a very soft seeded variety and will require re-sowing. It is recommended that Laser only be used as a one year rotational crop, as Rust (*Uromyces trifolii-repentis*) can cause losses if consecutive crops are produced. Laser is well suited to hay and silage but not tolerant to heavy grazing and should be treated as a fodder crop and grazed rotationally.

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