



Weed of The Week

White Dutch Clover (*Trifolium repens* L.)

This week's weed of the week features a turf managers worst nightmare. White Dutch Clover is a mat forming perennial that can be very competitive with other species of turf grasses and forages. This weed features low creeping branched stems that create roots at each node, making it very competitive with other species. White Dutch Clover can be found growing in many different environments but prefers turfgrass, landscaping, orchards, and overgrazed pastures. White Dutch Clover can grow very well in shaded areas and acidic soils. Flowering will begin in late spring and continue throughout the summer. The main form of reproduction is from seed, creeping branches, and stolon's, seeds are very hard many can stay dormant for a long period of time in the soil. Controlling White Dutch Clover can be very challenging but should begin with good fertility. White Dutch Clover thrives in low fertility soils with low PH levels. Adjusting your mower height to cut no lower than 2 inches in height will allow turf grasses to regrow faster and become more competitive with white clover. The same management strategy should be used in pastures, good grazing management and fertility program will prevent the spread or establishment in pastures. Herbicide control can be accomplished in lawn and turf setting with herbicides that contain fluroxypyr, triclopyr, and 2-4-D.

