

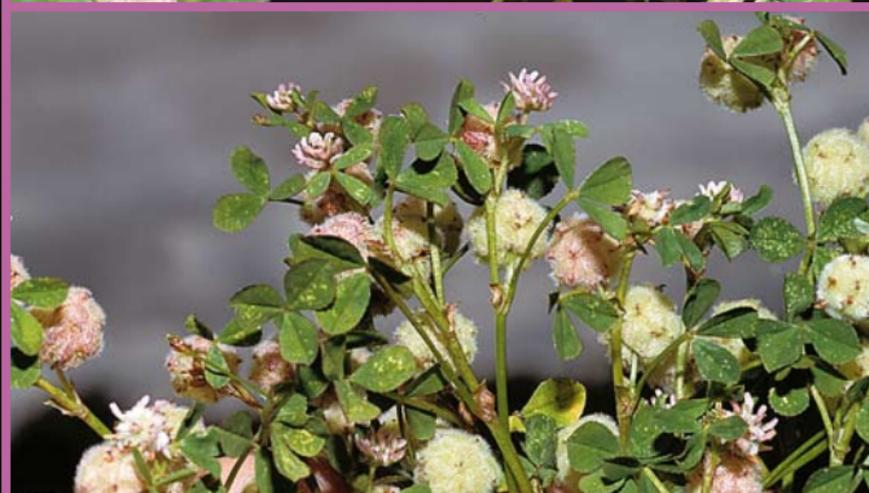
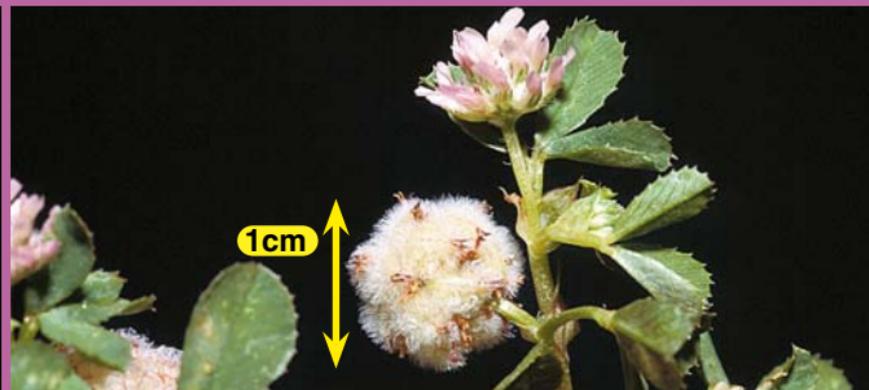
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SALTdeck

WOOLLY CLOVER

Trifolium tomentosum

L7
LEGUME



WOOLLY CLOVER

Trifolium tomentosum

Sustainable
Grazing on
Saline Land



SALTdeck Series

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L7

Family: Fabaceae.

Description: Cool season annual clover, hairless, with branches that are rarely longer than 25 cm. Pale pink pea-like flowers in clusters. Mature pods in clusters and resemble cotton balls. Small shiny yellow-brown seeds.

Key features: Leaflets toothed, borne on stalks of equal length. Stalkless or stalked flowerheads that mature into woolly balls.

Value: Generally high energy and high crude protein (although this declines rapidly when dead). Fixes nitrogen but biomass production can be limited. High dormancy allows seeds to persist for many years. Its presence is a good indicator of areas suited to more productive salt-tolerant legumes such as Burr Medic *Medicago polymorpha* and Persian Clover *Trifolium resupinatum*.

Salinity and waterlogging tolerance: Grows rapidly where water is held for short periods but does not thrive where conditions remain waterlogged. Low to moderate tolerance to salinity.

Notes: Native to Europe, Middle East and northern Africa, now spread over the world. Six varieties have been recognised in its native range.

References: *Pasture Legumes for Temperate Farming Systems (Ute Guide)*, 2004. *Genus Trifolium*, Zohary and Heller, 1984. *Flora of Victoria*, Walsh and Entwisle (eds), Vol. 3, 1996. *Plants of Western NSW*, Cunningham et al., 1981.

