

Alsike clover

Trifolium hybridum

Description

Primarily introduced for cultivation of hay, pasture and fodder. Also used for soil stabilization.

Habit

Short lived perennial that favors cool, moist conditions and can reach a height of 30-60 cm.

Leaves

Palmately compound, 3 inches long; leaflets are 0.50-1 inch long and 1/4-1/3 inch wide, hairless, oval to elliptic, rounded at the tip and tapered at the base. Stalkless with serrated sharp teeth around the edges.

Stems

Hairless, multiple, spreading, ascending

Flowers

Single flower heads on stalks 1-3 inches long, arising from the leaf axil; Flowerheads are 3/4 inch in diameter, densely pack with pea-shaped flowers, sharply pointed upward curved petal,





small lateral wings, throat keel, light pink to white becoming darker pink in color. Calyx is short and hairless.

Fruits and Seeds

2-4 seeds produced by each flower, smooth, heart-shaped, 1mm long, in short, broad pods that are green to green-ish brown in color becoming black with age.

Habitat

Native to Eurasia. Can be found in fields, roadsides, waste areas, and disturbed sites.

Reproduction

By seed.

Similar

White clover (*Trifolium repens*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*)

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Small infestations can be hand pulled. Several herbicides can be used for control but more information on names, etc. are not known.

Credits

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