



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# United Kingdom Variety List Trials: Trial Procedures for Official Examination of Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) Harvest 2024

Red Clover and Lucerne

## **Appendices**

September 2023

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# Changes

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## Appendix 1 – Approved Trial Organisers/ Operators for Red Clover and Lucerne

Activity	Organisers/Operators responsible
Trial Design and Data Handling Operator	NIAB for England & Wales BioSS for Scotland AFBI for Northern Ireland
VCU Trials Organiser	BSPB for England, Wales & Northern Ireland SASA for Scotland
Growing Trial Operator	DLF Seeds Ltd, DSV UK and NIAB for England IBERS for Wales SRUC for Scotland AFBI for Northern Ireland
Seed Handling Operator	NIAB
Pathology Trial Operator	N/A
Trial Inspection Operator	NIAB and BSPB for England & Wales SASA + BSPB for Scotland AFBI + BSPB for Northern Ireland
Technical Validation Operator	NIAB for England & Wales BioSS for Scotland AFBI for Northern Ireland
Quality Testing Operator	NIAB
Data Review and Standard Setting Operator	NIAB

## Appendix 2 – Seed treatment products for use on VL trials

*Rhizobium meliloti* inoculum for lucerne.

## **Appendix 3 – Seed dispatch deadlines**

VCU seed must be delivered to Seed Handling Operator by 5<sup>th</sup> February.

## Appendix 4 - VCU Growing trials for Red Clover and Lucerne

Factor:	Data
Minimum number of sowing years:	Lucerne: 2 Red Clover: 2
Number of harvest years	Lucerne: 2 harvest years for first sowing and second sowing Red Clover: 3 harvest years for the first sowing and two harvest years for the second sowing
Number of trial sites:	Lucerne: 1 Red Clover: 3
Number of replicates	3 in each trial
Ploidy groups	Diploid and tetraploid varieties of each group are grown in the same trial but candidates are compared with the appropriate control variety. See Appendix 5
Trial regimes	As detailed in Section C.5. Maximum 5 cuts in sowing year. Conservation management in first and second harvest years (and third harvest year – red clover).
Number of control varieties	One for each ploidy

# Appendix 5 – Control varieties

## **Red clover:**

Amos (Tetraploid control)  
AberClaret (Diploid control)

## **Lucerne:**

Daisy

# Appendix 6 - Dates for submission of records and samples

## To Data Handling Operator

Record	Latest date of receipt
Site data part 1 (including site sketch)	Within 2 weeks of sowing the trial
Site data part 2	Annually by end of November
Yield records	Electronically to the appropriate Data Handling Operator within seven working days of each cut.
Plot records (in approved electronic format)	Annually by end of November

## To Quality Testing Operator

Sample type	Latest Date
Quality testing – samples to be coarse milled	To Quality Testing Operator by 15 <sup>th</sup> September
Quality testing – samples to be fine milled	To Quality Testing Operator by 15 <sup>th</sup> September



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