



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Great Britain and Northern Ireland Variety List Trials: Trial Procedures for Official Examination of Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) Harvest 2026

White Clover and Grazing Red Clover Appendices

April 2025

Changes since last version

- Updated year of document and date of last update
- Updated email link to national archives at end of document
- Updated Niab abbreviation
- Updated Appendix 5
- Updated title

Contents

Appendix 1 – Approved Trial Organisers/Operators for White Clover.....	1
Appendix 2 – Seed treatment products for use on VL trials	3
Appendix 3 – Seed dispatch deadlines	4
Appendix 4 – VCU growing trials	5
Appendix 5 – Control varieties for VCU assessments	6
Appendix 6 – Dates for submission of records.....	7

Appendix 1 – Approved Trial Organisers/Operators for White Clover

Activity	Organisers/Operators responsible
Trial design and data handling operator	Niab for England and Wales BioSS for Scotland AFBI for Northern Ireland
VCU trials organiser	BSPB for England, Wales and Northern Ireland BSPB and SASA for Scotland
Seed handling operator	Niab
Growing trial operator	DLF, DSV UK and Niab for England IBERS for Wales SRUC for Scotland SASA for Scotland AFBI for Northern Ireland
Pathology trial operator	N/A
Trial inspection operator	Niab and BSPB for England and Wales SASA and BSPB for Scotland AFBI and BSPB for Northern Ireland
Technical validation operator	Niab for England and Wales BioSS for Scotland AFBI for Northern Ireland

Activity	Organisers/Operators responsible
Quality testing operator	Niab
Data Review and Standard Setting Operator	Niab

Appendix 2 – Seed treatment products for use on VL trials

None

Appendix 3 – Seed dispatch deadlines

VCU seed must be delivered to the Seed Handling Operator by 5 February.

Appendix 4 – VCU growing trials

Variable	
Number of sowings	2
Number of harvest years	Second and third harvest years from each sowing Persistency is recorded in all harvest years
Number of trial sites	6
Number of reps	4 total: 2 persistence management + 2 yield management
Leaf size	All leaf sizes
Number of control varieties	4 total: 1 per leaf group
Trial regimes	Yield and persistency

Appendix 5 – Control varieties for VCU assessments

The control varieties are:

- Small Leaf: AberAce
- Medium Leaf: AberHerald
- Large Leaf: Violin
- Very Large Leaf: Brianna
- Red Clover control: AberClaret
- Companion GrassLAberMagic

Appendix 6 – Dates for submission of records

Dates by which records should be sent 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



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