***Trifolium repens*** **System:** Terrestrial

| Kingdom | Phylum | Class | Order | Family |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Plantae | Magnoliophyta | Magnoliopsida | Fabales | Fabaceae |

**Common name** ladino clover (English), dutch clover (English), white clover (English), trébol blanco (Spanish), trevo-branco (Portuguese), white dutch clover (English), ladino white clover (English), Weißklee (German), trèfle blanc (French), trèfle rampant (French)

**Synonym**
*Trifolium repens* , L. var. *nigricans* G. Don
*Trifolium repens* , L. var. *repens*
*Amoria repens* , (L.) C. Presl
*Trifolium biasolettii* , Steud. & Hochst.
*Trifolium macrorrhizum* , Boiss.
*Trifolium occidentale* , Coombe
*Trifolium repens* , var. *rubescens* hort.
*Trifolium repens* , var. *biasolettii*
*Trifolium repens* , var. *giganteum*
*Trifolium repens* , var. *latum*
*Trifolium repens* , var. *macrorrhizum*
*Trifolium repens* , var. *pallescens*
*Trifolium repens* , var. *atropurpureum* hort.

**Similar species**

**Summary** *Trifolium repens* is a perennial legume that originated in Europe/East Asia and has become one of the most widely distributed legumes in the world. It has naturalized in most of North America, Central and South America, Australia and New Zealand.

view this species on IUCN Red List

**Species Description**
*Trifolium repens* has a prostrate, stoloniferous growth habit with leaves that are composed of three leaflets, which sometimes have a crescent-shaped mark on the upper surface. Leaves and roots develop along the stolon at the nodes. The flower heads, each consisting of 40 to 100 florets which are white in colour, are borne on long stalks from the leaf axils (USDA-NRCS, 2010b).

**Lifecycle Stages**
*Trifolium repens* is a perennial legume (Caradus, 1994).

**Uses**
*Trifolium repens* is reported to be contain both poison and healing abilities. Its leaves contain the chemical genistein which is reported to have ethnobotanical properties.
*T. repens* is also used as a forage crop.

**Habitat Description**
*Trifolium repens*, in the United States, thrives best in a cool, moist climate in soils with ample lime, phosphate, and potash. In general, *T. repens* is best adapted to clay and silt soils in humid and irrigated areas but also grows successfully on sandy soils with a high water table or irrigated droughty soils when adequately fertilized. *T. repens* seldom roots deeper than 2 feet, which makes it adapted to shallow soils when adequate moisture is available (USDA-NRCS, 2010b). In New Zealand, *T. repens* is frost tolerant down to -8 degrees Celsius (Caradus, 1994). In Australia it is common between the alpine and montane areas of the Australian Alps. It can be found up just over 2000m altitude and was introduced to help reduce the impacts of soil erosion (Johnston & Pickering, 2001). On the Amsterdam Islands it has been found to be a host for exotic aphid species, which could potentially affect endemic species (Hulle *et al*, 2010).

**Management Info**
Two varities of *Trifolium repens*; *T. repens* L. var. *nigricans* G. Don and *T. repens* L. var. *repens*, are known to be established alien species and/or found in the Japanese wild. Because of this, mitigation could be undertaken under the Invasive Alien Species Act, 2004 (Mito & Uesugi, 2004). However *T. repens* is so widespread within natural vegetation in the Australian Alps, that control is considered impracticable (MacDougall *et al*, 2005). Pickering & Hill (2007) further establish this by mentioning that although the feasibility of controlling vegetative regeneration is moderate, there is little chance of controlling the seed bank.

**Principal source:**

**Compiler:** IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

**Review:**

**Pubblication date:** 2010-06-08

**ALIEN RANGE**

**[2]** AUSTRALIA
**[1]** CENTRAL AMERICA
**[1]** FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)
**[1]** GREENLAND
**[1]** MEXICO
**[1]** SOUTH AMERICA

**[1]** TAIWAN
**[1]** WEST INDIES

**[1]** CANADA
**[1]** CHILE
**[1]** FRENCH SOUTHERN TERRITORIES
**[1]** JAPAN
**[1]** NEW ZEALAND
**[1]** SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS
**[2]** UNITED STATES

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IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)., 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.
**Summary:** This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.
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