


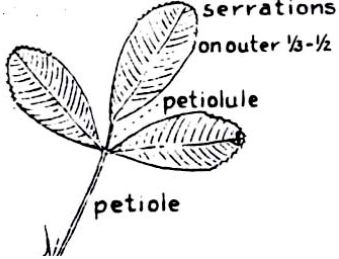



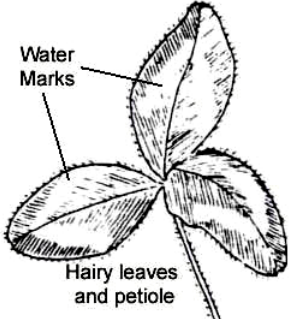












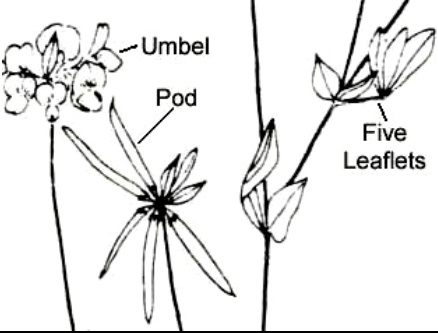



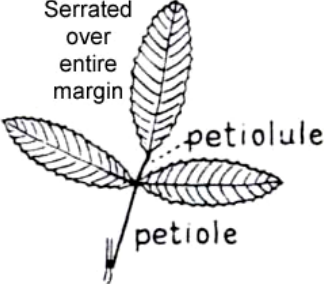



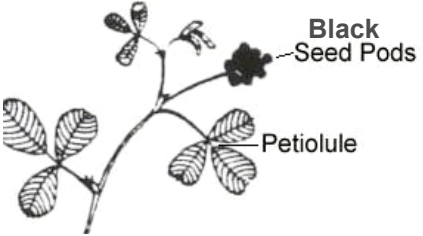





## Characteristics of Forage Legumes Found in the Northeast U.S.

Species	Growth Habit	Leaf Characteristics	Inflorescence	Image
<b>Alfalfa</b> <i>Medicago sativa</i> Tall, upright growth; Regrowth from crown area; Deep taproot; Flowers usually blue to purple; some types are yellow	 Crown buds		 Raceme inflorescence	
<b>Red clover</b> <i>Trifolium pratense</i> Tall, upright growth; Regrowth from crown area; Types: Medium Mammoth			 Compact head with reddish purple florets	
<b>White clover</b> <i>Trifolium repens</i> Prostrate creeping growth due to stolons; Limited upward branching. Types: Small Intermediate Large (Ladino type)	 Stolon with leaf and flower stems	 Inverted "V" shaped water marks <u>but not always</u> ; leaflets and petiole are smooth (not hairy)	 Compact head with white florets	
<b>Alsike clover</b> <i>Trifolium hybridum</i> Tall, upright growth; Regrowth from crown area; branched shoot growth; branched taproot; Often lodges;	 Upright growth	 Trifoliolate leaves; no hairs (smooth); leaf margins finely serrated	 Compact head with white to pink florets	

Species	Growth Habit	Leaf Characteristics	Inflorescence	Image
<p><b>Birdsfoot trefoil</b>  <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>  Intermediate to short height depending on type;  Types:  Short (Empire)  Tall (Viking)</p>	 <p>Crown at base</p>	 <p>Mature plant has five leaflets - three at terminal end and two at base;  Leaflets smooth, no hair</p>	  <p>An umbel of 2 to 9 florets;  Gets its name from the shape of the seed pods</p>	 <p>Umbel  Pod  Five Leaflets</p>
<p><b>Sweetclover</b>  <i>Melilotus</i> spp.  Tall, upright growth;  Biennial with deep taproot  Types:  White <i>M. alba</i>  Yellow <i>M. officinalis</i></p>		 <p>Trifoliolate leaves with longer petiolule on terminal leaflet; No hairs</p>	 <p>Dense raceme with white or yellow flowers;</p>	 <p>Serrated over entire margin  petiolule  petiole</p>
<p><b>Black medic</b>  <i>Medicago lupulina</i>  Short to intermediate growing annual often found in pasture;  Branched taproot;</p>		 <p>Trifoliolate leaves with longer petiolule</p>	 <p>Seed head with black pods;</p>	 <p>Black Seed Pods  Petiolule</p>
<p><b>Common vetch</b>  <i>Vicia sativa</i>  Weak stemmed vines that depend on tendrils to hold upright.</p>	 <p>Compound leaves with 10 to 14 leaflets.</p>	 <p>Tendrils at end of leaflet</p>	 <p>Raceme reddish purple flowers.</p>	