

TECHNICAL NOTES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Portland, Oregon

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

AGRONOMY NO. 42

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VEGETATIVE CLUES TO COMMON PASTURE LEGUMES

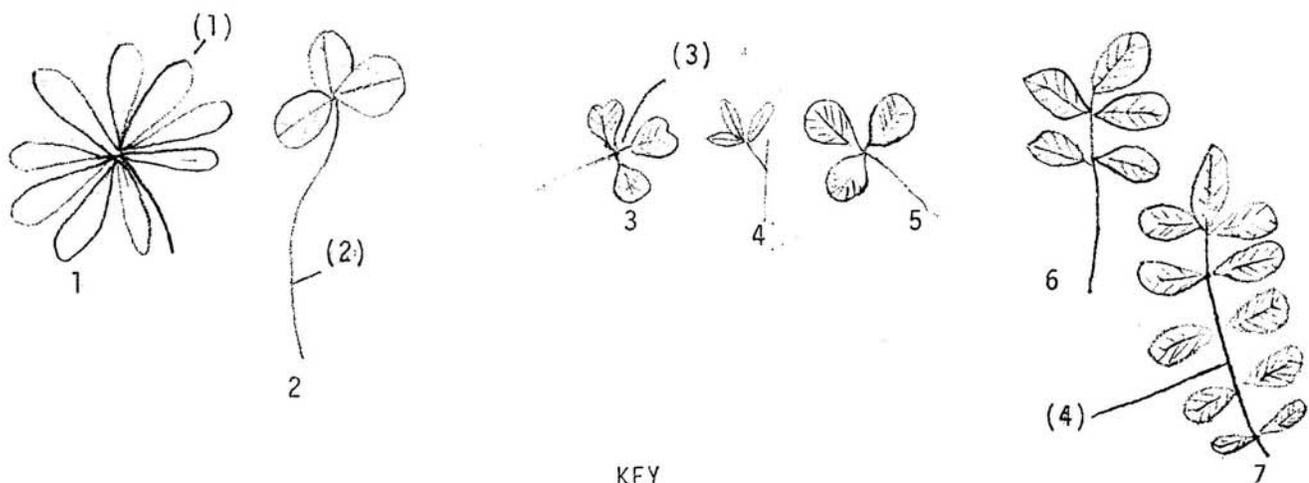
- A. Perennial
- a.a. Leaves pinnately compound - crown vetch
 - a.a. Leaves trifoliolate - not pubescent
 - b. 3rd leaf trifoliolate - older leaves 5 foliate - not variegated
 - c. Stems hollow - big trefoil
 - cc. Stems solid
 - d. leaves less than $\frac{1}{2}$ as broad as long - narrow leaf
 - dd. leaves more than $\frac{1}{2}$ as broad as long - birds foot
 - bb. 4th leaf trifoliolate
 - c. leaf edge $\frac{1}{3}$ serrate - alfalfa
 - a.a.a. leaves distinctly palmate - Pubescent
 - b. leaves variegated - red clover
 - bb. leaves not variegated - strawberry clover
 - a.a.a.a. Leaves distinctly palmate - not pubescent
 - b. leaves variegated - plants creeping - white clover
 - bb. leaves not variegated - plants erect - alsike clover
- A.A. Annual
- b. leaves pinnate, tendrils present - vetch
 - bb. leaves palmate, plants pubescent
 - prostrate, leaves variegated, flws white - sub clover
 - upright, leaflets less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide - rose clover
 - upright, leaflets more than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide - crimson clover
 - c. 4th leaf trifoliolate
 - d. leaf edge entirely serrate - sweet clover

OTHER LISTS

Pubescent	Variegated leaf	Pinnate	Trifoliolate
sub clover	sub clover	sophora	thermopsis
crimson clover	white clover	astragalus	psoralea
strawberry clover	red clover	vicia	cytisus
red clover		lathyrus	ulex (spines)

Not pubescent	Not variegated
alsike clover	crimson
white clover	alsike
	strawberry
	rose

This key was developed to be exclusive of all other legumes not included, to be used for initial training in identification and field recognition only. It is not intended to be an inclusive botanical key.



KEY

- | |
|---|
| 1. Palmately compound leaf - 9 - foliate (leaflets) |
| 2. Palmately compound leaf 3 - foliate |
| 3-4-5. Pinnately compound - 3 - foliate |
| 6. Pinnately compound 5 - foliate |
| 7. Pinnately compound 11 - foliate |

- (1) leaflet
 (2) petiole
 (3) petiolule
 (4) rachis

GLOSSARY

Palmate - radiating from the same point
 Palmately compound - bearing leaflets at the end of the petiole
 Pinnate - arrange along a rachis
 Pinnately compound - having leaflets born on a rachis
 Rachis - axis of a compound leaf
 Bipinnately compound - twice compound
 petiolule - the stalk of a leaflet

Developed by W. H. Billings, Agronomist, SCS, Oregon.