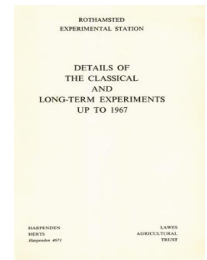


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Details of the Classical and Long-term Experiments Up to 1967

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Rothamsted Garden - Clover

Rothamsted Research

Rothamsted Research (1970) *Rothamsted Garden - Clover* ; Details Of The Classical And Long-Term Experiments Up To 1967, pp 48 - 48 - DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23637/ERADOC-1-192>

ROTHAMSTED GARDEN CLOVER, 1854 ONWARDS

This experiment is an attempt to grow red clover continuously on a rich garden soil.

The first crop was sown in spring 1854 on a plot in the kitchen garden of the Manor House. In 1856 the plot was divided into three parts for a test of no manure v. gypsum v. mixed minerals (containing potash). The treatments were repeated in 1868, 1874 and 1883. In 1896 a dressing of mixed minerals was applied to the whole area, dug in to 18-inch depth; the topsoil and subsoil were kept separate. No further manures were applied until 1956.

In 1898 and 1900 the whole plot was treated with carbon disulphide.

In 1956 the plot was divided into two to test an annual dressing of muriate of potash at 2 cwt (4 cwt in 1961).

In 1960 the sub-plots were halved to test the effect of a foliage spray of molybdenum (as 1 lb sodium molybdate).

In 1963 and 1964 only the test of K was continued.

In 1965 the variety was changed to *Dorsetiensis* and the sub-plots halved for a test of formalin drench (266 gallons of a 38 % solution of formaldehyde).

In 1966 clover failed after the first cut and re-sowing in September failed.

In 1967 additional K, 7 cwt muriate of potash, was applied to the sub-plot which had not previously received any. This was followed by a basal dressing of 2 cwt muriate of potash and 1 ton ground chalk. The plot was then sown with S123 red clover and divided into two to test a dressing of 1.0 cwt N for each cut.

The plot is re-sown whenever necessary. Complete re-sowing or patching is now almost a yearly operation.

Two or three cuts of green stuff are taken each season.

Whole plot area: 0.0022 acre.

Reference

For an account of the history and yields of this plot see *Rep. Rothamsted exp. Stn for 1956*, 187–189.

TABLE 17

Clover, Rothamsted Garden

Dry matter: cwt

Means over 10 years, 1957–66

Muriate of potash: cwt

None	2*	Mean
17.9	37.2	27.6

* 4 cwt in 1961.