White clover on farm cultivar evaluation

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Design

• Evaluate white clover cultivars
  • Five clover cultivars
    1. Chieftain
    2. Iona
    3. Buddy
    4. Aberhearld
    5. Aberace (Small)
  • Each cultivar sown a minimal of twice on each farm
    • Farms blocked in paddocks of 6
    • 5 clover cultivars and 1 grass in each block
Current up date

- Currently 8 farms sown
  - 8th farm 60% sown
- Commence again next April 2017
  - Finish sowing eight farm
  - Re-sow any failed paddocks

- First farms sown
  - Clover established – average 290 plants/m2
  - No effect of clover cultivar used
  - 3 paddocks failed on first farm
    - Due to drought conditions

3m Einbock Pneumaticstar Seeder
Clover Plant Emergence

Clover plants/m² 11 weeks post sowing:
305 plants/m²

Potential to result in a peak of 35% in 12 months

The Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority
Discussion!!

- What are the next steps;
  1. What is the value of clover?
  2. Will there be industry uptake?
  3. What other information is needed?
  4. What are the main barriers to white clovers use?