


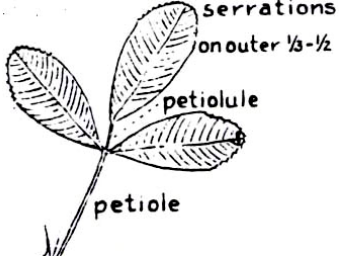



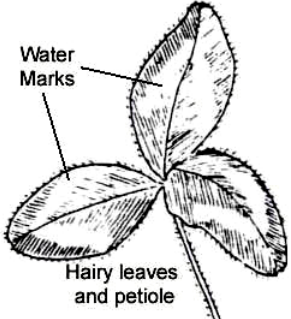











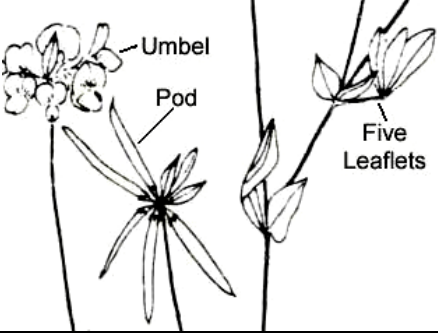



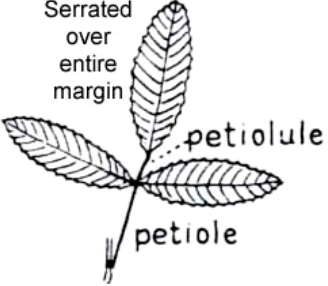



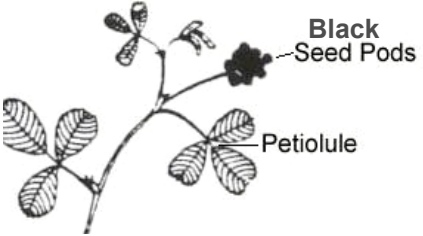





Characteristics of Forage Legumes Found in the Northeast U.S.

Species	Growth Habit	Leaf Characteristics	Inflorescence	Image
<p>Alfalfa <i>Medicago sativa</i> Tall, upright growth; Regrowth from crown area; Deep taproot; Flowers usually blue to purple; some types are yellow</p>	 Crown buds		 Raceme inflorescence	
<p>Red clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> Tall, upright growth; Regrowth from crown area; Types: Medium Mammoth</p>			 Compact head with reddish purple florets	
<p>White clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> Prostrate creeping growth due to stolons; Limited upward branching. Types: Small Intermediate Large (Ladino type)</p>	 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	
<p>Alsike clover <i>Trifolium hybridum</i> Tall, upright growth; Regrowth from crown area; branched shoot growth; branched taproot; Often lodges;</p>	 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>Birdsfoot trefoil <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>Sweetclover <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>Black medic <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>Common vetch <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>	