

# Variety Description

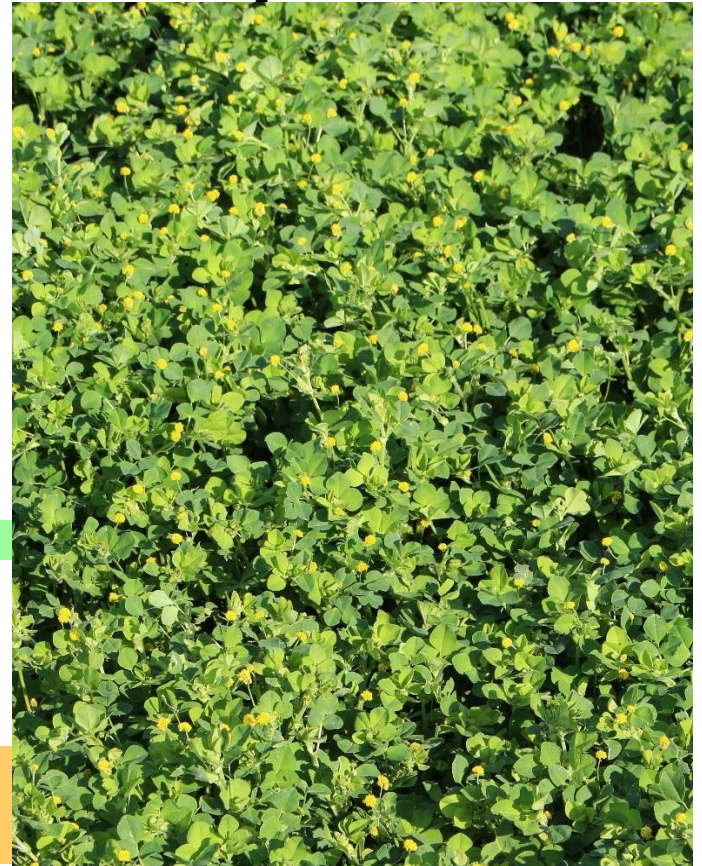
## Variety

## VIRGO

<b>Species</b>	Black medic
<b>Botanical name</b>	Medicago lupulina
<b>Ploidy</b>	Diploid
<b>Seeding rate</b>	15-20 kg/ha
<b>Distance between rows</b>	Similar to cereals
<b>Sowing period</b>	Early April to mid-July
<b>Sowing depth</b>	1 cm

### Agronomic figures\*:

Beginning of flowering	4
Development after sowing	5
Tendency to lodging	6
Tendency to winterkilling	6
Susceptibility to sclerotinia trifoliorum (clover rot)	5
Susceptibility to mildew	4
DM-yield total	5
DM-yield first cut	5
DM-yield in aftermath	5
Crude protein content	6



### Clarification of figures\*:

1: very early, very low / 5: medium / 9: very late, very high

\* **Source:** Cultivator classification

### Variety description

VIRGO is an annual to biennial black medic variety that flourishes best on calcareous soils. The early-flowering variety is more commonly planted in grassland, greening and flowering mixtures than on its own. A uniform yield potential and intermediate levels of susceptibility to clover rot and mildew are among VIRGO's key characteristics.

### Most important characteristics

Early-flowering  
Uniform yield potential  
Well-suited to dry sites  
Low-maintenance

### Usage

Black medic, also known as hop clover, blooms notably earlier than other clover species. Compared to bird's-foot trefoil, which has similarly bright-yellow flowers, black medic grows lower, with a prostrate and interlinked growth form. When used in extensive grassland and greening areas, as well as in flowering mixtures, black medic can create dense mats that attract insects. This allows the species to perform well at weed suppression and ground cover. Black medic thrives on calcareous soils in warm, relatively dry climates and can provide passable results in conditions that are too dry for alsike clover, red clover, Egyptian clover and bird's-foot trefoil. In addition to its uses in grassland and greening sites, as well as in flowering mixtures, it can be planted as a nurse crop for cereals or as an atmospheric nitrogen-fixing green manure.

