

SLOPEMASTER

Durana White Clover Enhances Sustainability and Performance of Slopemaster™



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Responding to the professional erosion control industry's desire for a permanent, more sustainable and aesthetically pleasing slope vegetation mix, Pennington developed the ultra popular SLOPEMASTER professional erosion control product. SLOPEMASTER is a special blend of technologically advanced seed varieties selected specifically to grow and thrive on poor soil sites under challenging conditions with minimal maintenance.

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most persistent and versatile clover available in the marketplace today. When compared to other clovers, Durana is more heat and drought tolerant and exhibits better insect and disease resistance. University tests have proven it to be tolerant of poor soils with low fertility and low pH. With as many as 97 stolons per sq. ft., Durana forms a thick, water penetrable mat that holds highly erodible soils in place. It is unique in that it spreads across the top of the

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ground much like bermudagrass, covering any open ground between grass plants to provide 100% soil cover. As a legume, Durana improves soil structure and "manufactures" up to 150 lbs. of nitrogen per acre annually which it shares with companion plants such as tall fescue, bahia and bermuda. It is a perennial plant that has a long growing season (up to 10 months) and regrows both from live stolons and from volunteer reseedling. Durana produces an array of beautiful white blooms that is pleasing to the eye and attracts many species of beneficial insects. These multiple attributes combine to make Durana white clover a great fit for SLOPEMASTER.

EROSION CONTROL

The *Durana* Advantage for Erosion Control

- ✓ Durana is a perennial plant offering long term stabilization and erosion control.
- ✓ It has exceptional heat and drought tolerance enabling it to survive in regions where clovers have historically only grown as annuals.
- ✓ Plants have wide leaves that provide greater canopy cover to slow and dissipate falling rain drops resulting in reduced incidence of splash erosion.
- ✓ Durana features dense stolon cover along the soil layer to help hold soil in place.
- ✓ A vast underground root system anchors the plants in the soil to stabilize the soil and guard against erosion cause by flowing surface water.
- ✓ Durana works well as a companion plant with other perennial plants included in the vegetative erosion control mix. Its spreading stolons intertwine with other bunch type or spreading plants to create a full canopy and strong root system. It has excellent tolerance to shading caused by taller companion plant species. The shading can actually benefit Durana by cooling the understory and allowing it to stay green and bloom longer into the summer months.
- ✓ As a perennial legume, Durana can capture up to 150 lbs of atmospheric nitrogen per acre annually. This feature allows the plants to feed themselves on sites that often are not well maintained or fertilized. It shares N with companion plants making the site more environmentally sustainable.
- ✓ Durana seed are treated with Pennington's exclusive GermMax seed coating technology for faster germination, greater seedling vigor, enhanced root development and long term performance.



EROSION CONTROL

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT DURANA CLOVER

We planted Durana clover on a project in south Mississippi where farmers told me it wouldn't grow. I had some of the best clover stands on that project than I've seen anywhere. The roots covered the ground to hold the soil from eroding, but didn't choke out the other plants. Some of the clover leaves were as big as the back of my hand. I saw clover blooming well into June. The Durana clover is excellent for erosion control either planted by itself or in a mixture like Slopemaster. – Bobby Thomas, Reel Neet Erosion Control, Olive Branch, MS



Slopemaster Helps Landscapers Get a Grip

The QVC Home Shopping Company built a new distribution center in Florence, South Carolina this spring and landscaper Darrin Kirven was charged with the task of building a retention pond for the 100 acre project. Part of the project entailed finding and installing a product to control erosion and prevent storm water runoff on the property. This proved

good erosion control. Kirven had heard about a new product called Slopemaster and was interested in learning more about its merits. After researching Slopemaster Professional Erosion Control Seed Mixture and knowing that it was specifically designed for erosion prone areas such as retention ponds, he decided to give it a try. There were

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Slopemaster with Durana white clover

to be no easy task and involved lots of trial and error before a suitable solution was found.

“Inclement weather conditions this spring caused a very poor growing season so we had poor results with a lot of products,” Kirven said. “The project was contained in an area that had a 3 to 1 slope which had previously been sprayed with conventional seeding methods with very poor to no results.”



Durana foliage forms a desirable canopy cover to slow and dissipate falling raindrops resulting in less splash erosion.

With the grand opening quickly approaching there was concern about choosing a product that would establish rapidly to provide a quick ground cover while also providing

actually several distinguishing characteristics that Kirven felt separated Slopemaster from other products on the market. Slopemaster contains a good mix of warm season grasses and Durana white clover. Durana contains as many as 97 stolons per square foot and that was extremely attractive for this project because when established, it will hold the soil and survive during the cool months of the year. In addition, Durana white clover will capture up to 150 pounds of atmospheric nitrogen per acre per year, reducing the need for additional fertilizers.

The Slopemaster product was hydroseeded on May 25, 2007. According to Kirven, within 8 weeks a full stand had emerged after only three rainfall events. Slopemaster continued to outperform the other products previously used. Kirven said, “We were amazed that within the first 20 days, there was 80% coverage. After an additional twenty days, the area containing Slopemaster had 100% coverage, with little to no runoff or erosion.”

Overall the Slopemaster product is a superior low



Reclaimed coal mine slope after Slopemaster establishment.

maintenance erosion control mixture. It contains perennial and annual seeds that will establish quickly and last for years. The Durana white clover in Slopemaster has an aggressive growth habit and has the proven ability to outlast all other white clovers because of the superior stolon density which allows it to anchor most erodible soils. Kirven further describes his experience using Slopemaster. “It is the best product I have found on the market.”

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