

# Birdsfoot Trefoil

*Lotus corniculatus*



Birdsfoot Trefoil is a perennial legume, similar in appearance to some clovers. It is adapted to many soil types. The flowers develop into small pea-like pods or legumes. The name 'bird's foot' refers to the appearance of the seed pods on their stalk. There are five leaflets, but with the central three held conspicuously above the others, hence the use of the name *trefoil*.

The height of the plant is variable, from 5-20 cm, occasionally more where supported by other plants; the stems can reach up to 50 cm long. It is typically sprawling at the height of the surrounding grassland. It can survive fairly close grazing, trampling and mowing. It is most often found in sandy soils. It stays green from June until September and produces small, yellow flowers. It does well in mixtures and is bloat-resistant for grazing purposes.

Seeding Rate: Drilled: 5 - 6 Lbs. / Ac | Broadcast: 1Lb. / 3,500 sq ft  
Height Range (inches): 12 - 24  
Seeds Per Pound: 375,000

## *Taxonomy*

*Species: corniculatus*

*Genus: Lotus*

*Family: Fabaceae*

*Order: Fabales*

*Subclass: Rosidae*

*Class: Magnoliopsida*

*Division: Magnoliophyta*

*Subkingdom: Tracheobionta*

*Kingdom: Plantae*



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