

Silver River Sweetclover

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‘Silver River’ is a rust resistant cultivar of white-flowered, annual sweetclover (*Melilotus albus* Medik.) adapted to south and central Texas. Sweetclover rust (*Uromyces striatus*) causes a range of plant disease symptoms, including leaf drop, reduced seed and forage yield, and premature plant death. The breeding and evaluation of Silver River for rust resistance was conducted at Beeville, TX under severe epiphytotic of sweetclover rust. Two cycles of mass selection at Beeville were used to improve the rust resistance of a sweetclover population that was collected in Uruguay. The original plant introduction population had 21% rust resistant plants. Silver River averaged 91% resistant plants at Beeville in 2014 and 2015, compared to ‘Hubam’ with a 2-year average of 7% resistance. Silver River is similar to Hubam in forage yield and maturity. This new cultivar will improve the reliability of annual sweetclover in cattle grazing systems and wildlife supplemental forage plantings in south and central Texas.

Silver River sweetclover was released by Texas A&M AgriLife Research in 2016.

Silver River is licensed to Amigos Genetics, LLC and seed can be purchased at:

Turner Seed
Breckenridge, TX
(800.722.8616).

The PVP application is in progress.

For more information, please contact Dr. Gerald R. Smith (g-smith@tamu.edu).