

# Birdsfoot Trefoil

*Lotus corniculatus*



## Description

Short-lived perennial legume.

## Uses

Pasture.

## Advantages

Palatable, non-bloating legume. Tolerant of low fertility and pH. Excellent for mine reclamation.

## Disadvantages

Plants subject to crown rot and must be allowed to reseed each year to persist. Low seedling vigor compared to other legumes. Slow to establish in existing sod.

## Seeding

Rate: 6-12 lb/a

Depth: ¼-½ in

Date: Mar 1-Apr 15

## Harvest

First harvest: May 1-May 15

Annual yield: 1-3 tons/dry matter/a



Birdsfoot trefoil has a bright yellow flower and seed pods that are arranged in the shape of a bird's foot.



Leaf consists of five leaflets, with lower pair smaller than upper three pairs. Leaflets have a triangular shape and have very prominent stipules (leaflike structures) on the lower stem.