



Photo Credit: Blokenearexeter

Timothy is a perennial grass well adapted to the Midwest and Northeast climates of the United States. Formerly grown extensively in Wisconsin, timothy has declined and is now found mainly in Eastern Wisconsin along Lake Michigan. The crop is used primarily for hay to feed livestock. Timothy is frequently grown in mixtures of clover, which has a higher feeding value to livestock and improves soil fertility.

Timothy (*Phleum pratense*)

Timothy is native to Europe, and derives its name from Timothy Hanson who grew it in Maryland in 1720, and was a leader in advocating its widespread cultivation. A typical cycle involves timothy and clover along with a small-grain crop (oats, wheat, rye, or barley) in the same field for three years. In the first year, most of the plants are the grain companion crop, which starts quickly; in the second year the hay crop is mostly clover; and in the third year timothy dominates. Commonly the pasture is then ploughed and other crops are planted as part of a long-term rotation.

Narrative Credit: John Andrews

Prof. Dr. Otto Wilhelm Thomé *Flora von Deutschland, Österreich und der Schweiz*
1885, Gera, Germany

Presented by the Town of Middleton