The goal behind the development of AberLasting was to produce a hybrid between white clover (*Trifolium repens*) and caucasian clover (*T. ambiguum*) that incorporated the desirable traits of both species. White clover is by far the most widely used temperate forage legume in grazed pasture for well-established reasons. It is nitrogen fixing, fast growing, highly digestible and high in protein but exhibits only limited persistency under more extreme environmental stress. The closely related caucasian clover is superficially similar, has similar nutritional characteristics to white clover but has much greater persistency under extreme conditions of stress.

When water availability is limited, AberLasting is able to maintain its leaf water content for far longer than conventional white clover. In experiments in drought bins, AberLasting is capable of maintaining its leaf water content for a period of 3 weeks without watering compared with two weeks for conventional white clover. AberLasting has also shown excellent tolerance of cold temperatures and freezing. It is able to withstand overnight exposure to temperatures of –4°F, which will kill off 70% of plants of the most tolerant varieties of white clover, and can survive down to –22°F.

AberLasting compares well with commercial varieties in terms of forage quality, with comparable DMD and higher WSC components. AberLasting’s nitrogen fixation is comparable with that of commercial white clover varieties and its yield and rate of establishment is much greater than that of Caucasian clover. AberLasting also shows excellent tolerance of grazing. It recovers quicker following heavy grazing than conventional varieties and also maintains ground cover percentages to a greater extent than varieties of similar leaf size.