

Species	Planting Dates		Planting Rate		Depth (Inches)	Seeds/lb.	Overwinter?	Use
	Alone	Mixture	Alone	Mixture				
Balansa Clover	Aug-Oct 1	5-8	3-5	1/8 to 1/4	1,100,000	Yes	Cover Crop	
Crimson Clover	Aug-Oct 1	15-25	10-12	1/4 to 1/2	150,000	Yes	Cover Crop, Forage	
Hairy Vetch	Aug-Oct 15	20-25	5-8	1/2 to 1	16,000	Yes	Cover Crop, Forage	
Peas, Austrian Winter	Aug-Sept	50-80	15-20	1/2 to 1	1,800	Yes	Forage, Hay, Silage	
Radish	Aug-Sept 15	5-7	2-3	1/4 to 1/2	39,000	No	Cover Crop, Wildlife	
Turnips	Aug-Sept 15	NR	2-3	1/4 to 1/2	220,000	No	Cover, Forage, Wildlife	
Dwarf Essex Rape	Aug-Sept 15	NR	2-3	1/4 to 1/2	225,000	Maybe	Cover Crop, Forage	
Winter Camelina	Aug-Oct 1	NR	3-6	1/4 to 1/2		Maybe	Cover Crop, Forage	
Ryegrass, Annual	Aug-Oct 10	12-24	5-10	1/4 to 1/2	227,000	Yes	Cover, Forage, Silage	
Oats	Aug-Sept	30-90	20-50	1/2 to 1	16,000	No	Cover Crop, Forage, Hay	
Rye, Cereal	Aug-Oct	40-100	30-56	1/2 to 1	18,000	Yes	Cover Crop, Forage, Hay	
Triticale	Aug-Oct 15	50-110	20-50	1/2 to 1	15,000	Yes	Cover Crop, Forage, Hay	
Wheat	Aug-Oct 1	5-110	20-50	1/2 to 1	12,000	Yes	Forage, Grain, Wildlife	

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT LINES INCLUDE:

- Pasture Species
 - Grasses
 - Clovers
 - Alfalfas
 - Summer Annuals
- Turf- Seed, Fertilizer, Chemicals
- CRP & Native Species
- Wildlife Plot Mixes and Species
- Grains
- And More!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:



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COVER CROP GUIDE



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Cover crops have grown in popularity over the last few years. There are many options to choose from, with each providing different benefits.

SOME POTENTIAL COVER CROP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Reduce Erosion
- Improve Soil Organic Matter
- Increase Soil Water Holding Capacity
- Improve Down Stream Water Quality
- Recapture Nutrients
- Provide Feed & Forage Value
- Produce Nitrogen
- Weed Suppression
- Improve Profitability

Once you know what benefits you hope to achieve, you can start to determine what cover crop to choose.

SOME VARIABLES TO CONSIDER:

- What is the next crop to grow?
- What is the planting window?
- Are there any herbicide carryover risks?
- What is your experience level?
- Will you terminate crop in spring, or do you need a winter kill crop?



A FEW KEYS TO COVER CROP SUCCESS INCLUDE:

- Maintaining soil fertility & pH
- Inoculating legumes
- Planting & terminating at the proper time
- Appropriate seeding depth & method
- Using quality seed

HAIRY VETCH

Seeding Rates:

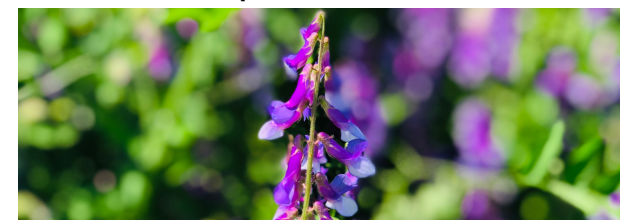
- Aerial - 20-25#/acre
- Broadcast - 20-25#/acre
- Drill - 15-20#/acre

Benefits:

Nitrogen Fixation, Increase Organic Matter, Improve Soil Water Holding Capacity

Considerations:

- Winter Hardy, will need to terminate in spring
- Use inoculant for nitrogen production
- Allow to bloom prior to termination for maximum nitrogen production
- Works well on poor soils



CRIMSON CLOVER

Seeding Rates:

- Aerial - 20-30#/acre
- Broadcast - 18-24#/acre
- Drill - 12-18#/acre

Benefits:

Nitrogen Fixation, Increase Organic Matter, Forage

Considerations:

- Plant 8 weeks before frost in fall
- Use inoculant for maximum nitrogen production
- Bloat may be a concern for grazing



ANNUAL RYEGRASS

Seeding Rates:

- Aerial - 20-25#/acre Broadcast - 15-25#/acre
- Drill - 15-20#/acre

Benefits:

Reduce Erosion, Nutrient Capture, Weed Suppression, Forage, Reduce Compaction

Considerations:

- Easy to establish, rookie friendly, winter-hardy
- Consider low growing variety
- Fibrous root system
- Does NOT cause an allelopathic effect on corn
- Termination Cautions
 - Wait until temperatures are 50+ to terminate with chemicals. Use AMS
 - Use true varieties for even stand

OATS

Seeding Rates:

- Aerial - 64-96#/acre Broadcast - 60-80#/acre
- Drill - 32-64#/acre

Benefits:

Reduce Erosion, Nutrient Capture, Grazing, Weed Suppression, Reduce Compaction

Considerations:

- Easy to establish, rookie friendly
- Will winterkill
- Fibrous Root System
- Does NOT cause an allelopathic effect on corn
- Excellent nurse crop



RADISH

Seeding Rates:

- 2-5#/acre as part of a mix

Benefits:

Nutrient Recycling, Reduce Compaction, Forage, Increase Organic Matter, Weed Suppression

Considerations:

- Will winter-kill
- Allow 6-8 weeks growth before frost
- Certain radish types may host nematodes
 - Choose an oilseed radish if SCN is a concern



(L) TURNIPS | (R) RADISH

TURNIPS

Seeding Rates:

- 2-4#/acre as part of a mix

Benefits:

Nutrient Recycling, Forage, Increase Organic Matter, Weed Suppression
Over 200,000 seeds per pound, so low rates provide lots of seeds / sq ft!

Considerations:

- Will Winter-Kill
- Allow 6-8 weeks growth before frost



CEREAL RYE

Seeding Rates:

- Aerial - 80-100#/acre
- Broadcast - 70-90#/acre
- Drill - 30-60#/acre

Benefits:

Reduce Erosion, Nutrient Capture, Weed Suppression

Considerations:

- Easy to establish, rookie friendly
- Most winter hardy option
- Fibrous root system
- May cause allelopathic effect to following corn crop
 - Reduce effect by terminating 2 weeks before planting corn
 - Consider adding supplemental Nitrogen or insecticide treatments to grain crop

PEAS

Seeding Rates:

- 50-80#/acre, drilled or broadcast

Benefits:

Nutrient Recycling, Forage, Increase Organic Matter, Nitrogen Fixation

Considerations:

- Will occasionally winter-kill
- Allow 6-8 weeks growth before frost
- Best when drilled 1/2: deep & inoculated

