### PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET



### **COVER CROP DESCRIPTION**

Unique forb with fernlike biomass. Not commonly grown in the Northeast US (well-known in Europe), info limited, seed costly. Winter-kill generally expected. Fast growth in mild temperatures, moderate biomass, residue not long-lasting. Fibrous shallow roots excellent for soil aggregation. Appears to have daylength response: in fall vegetative growth only; in spring goes to flower. Given that it rarely survives the winter, may do best if planted in spring when blooms are of interest. Showy blue blooms are excellent for pollinators.









Phacelia - Brown [2020] Phacelia - NancyLeeAdamson [2020] Phacelia - SarahFoltzJordan [2020]





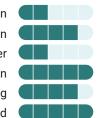
Phacelia - Salon [2020]

### **GOALS**

**Growing Window** Nitrogen Scavenging Lasting Residue Prevent Fall Soil Erosion Prevent Spring Soil Erosion Forage Harvest Value

Short

Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food



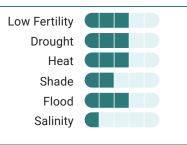
### **WEEDS**

Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds **Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds** Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence

Volunteer Establishment

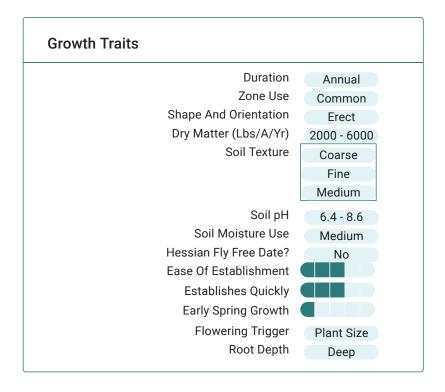


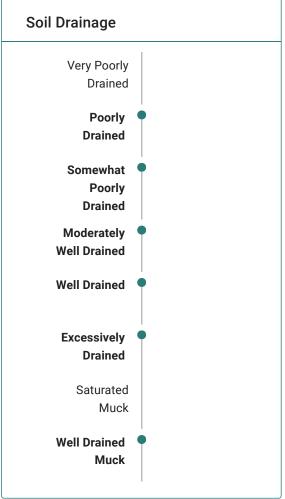
# **ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES**

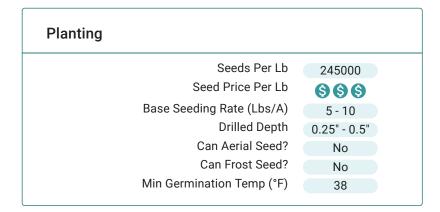


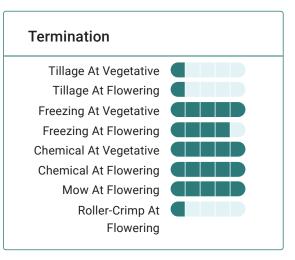
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# REPUBLICATION PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

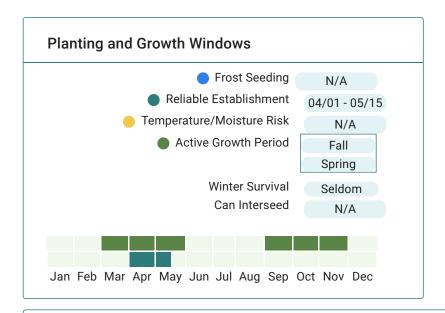








# REPORT OF PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET



## **Extended Comments**

Termination: It tangles easily.

Weeds: Slow to release N to following crop unless growth terminated in mid-vegetative stage (12-18 in.)

**Goals:** Could be ranked a 5 (excellent) for Increase Soil Aggregation if it survives winter or otherwise has sufficient time in the ground to grow (in USDA hardiness zone 6 this rating is dependent on adequate spring growth or good winter survival).

**Pollinators:** Top-rated cover crop for bees, along with buckwheat.

**Insects:** Purple tansy produces large amounts of nectar that can readily attract different family of parasitoids but it is not well adapated to the growing season in Maryland

## **References & Resources**

Conservation Cover for Pollinators, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation