



PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 4 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Excellent summer grass choice. Plant in early summer; does not tolerate cool soils. Fast-grower, big biomass potential in the presence of lots of soil N. Regrows well after mowing/grazing. Excellent subsoiler with thicker roots than most grasses. Excellent weed suppressor due to competition and allelopathy (caution if next crop is small-seeded). Good forage, but prussic acid and nitrate content can be a problem. Improved forage types available, cultivars may vary widely. Slow drydown will limit dry hay production; chop or wrap for forage. Can produce large amount of biomass; mow or kill in a timely fashion. Can substitute sorghum or sorghum-sudangrass. Mix with cowpea, sunn hemp, and sunflower for a diverse summer mix.





Sudangrass - Ziegler [2020]

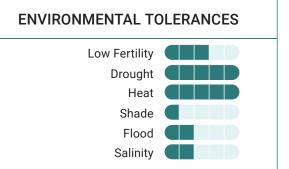
Sudangrass - Ziegler [2020]

GOALS

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

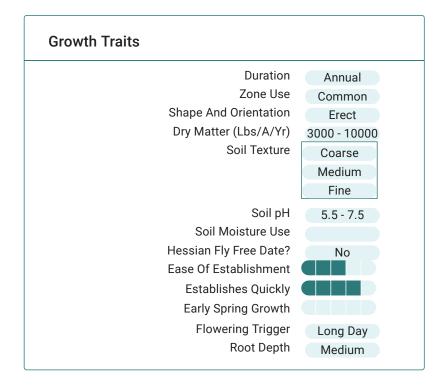
Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food

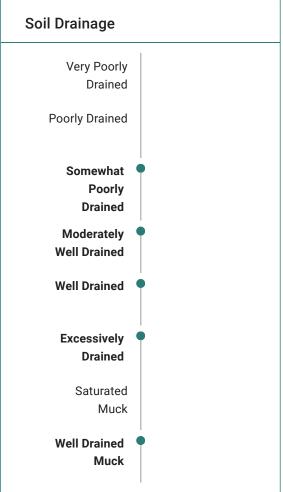
WEEDS Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds **Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds** Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence Volunteer Establishment

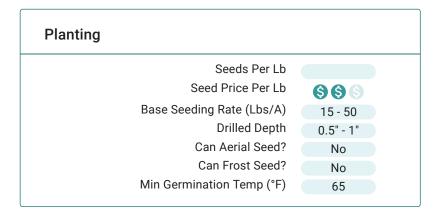


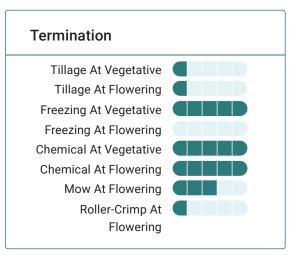


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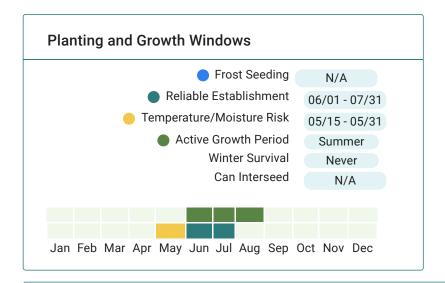








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Extended Comments

Planting: Planting rate is based partly on seed size, which can vary dramatically. Recommended seeding rate here is based on the given seed size.

Nematodes: Host for lesion nematode.

References & Resources

Cover Crops and Green Manures, University of Vermont Extension

2015 Cover Crop Mix in Corn Silage Trial, University of Vermont Extension

Cover Crops for Home Gardens, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Sudangrass and Sorghum-Sudangrass, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Early Summer Seasonal Cover Crops, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Mid and Late Summer Seasonal Cover Crops, Cornell University Cooperative Extension