

PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 4 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

A cross between rye and wheat, with characteristics intermediate between the two. Fall growth is upright, similar to wheat, so it is slower to provide ground cover and weed suppression than rye. High biomass yield potential is slightly higher than wheat in the fall and similar to rye. Matures later than rye, a little later than wheat. Plant height at heading is shorter than rye. Therefore, spring residue is easier to manage than rye and (assuming same kill date), C:N ratio will be slightly lower than rye. Triticale feed quality is generally better than rye, but not as good as wheat (i.e. chop triticale for silage at boot stage). Winter kill is more likely if planted early in plant hardiness zone 5 and colder. Due to its later flowering and plant height it is better in a mix with legumes than cereal rye when nitrogen fixation in the spring is the prime objective. Winter triticale varieties typically require vernalization (overwintering) to flower and may stay short and not produce seed if planted in the spring. Spring triticale varieties do not require vernalization (overwintering) to flower and may be less cold hardy than winter triticale varieties if planted in the fall.





Triticale, Winter - Salon [2020]

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GOALS

Growing Window Long 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

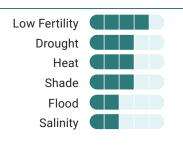


WEEDS

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

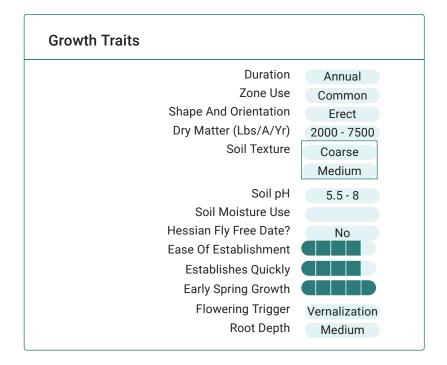
Volunteer Establishment

ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

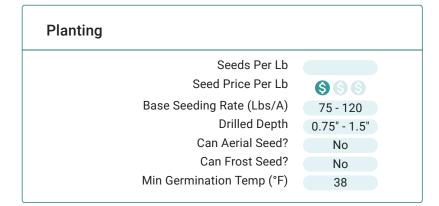


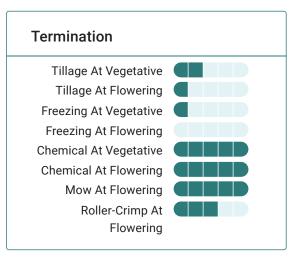


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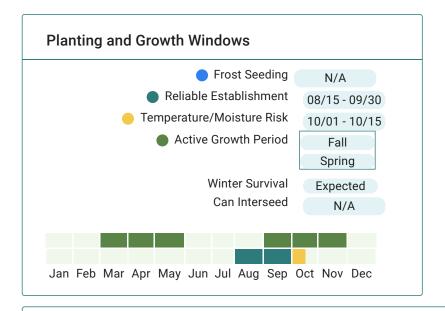








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Extended Comments

Forage and Grazing: Let it go through til May and you get decent silage yields. Not quite as high as fall rye, but spring conditions are typically better for harvest by then (2 weeks after rye is ready). Bloat risk and other animal health risks, similar to brassicas.

References & Resources

2016 Cover Crop Mix in Corn Silage Trial, University of Vermont Extension

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

2014 Summer Cover Crop Mix, University of Vermont Extension

2014 Early Fall Cover Crop Trial, University of Vermont Extension

Cover Cropping Costs and Benefits, University of Vermont Extension

<u>Under Cover - Integrating Cover Crops into Silage Corn Systems</u>, University of Vermont Extension

Pasture Production of Selected Forage Species, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

Cover Cropping for Success, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Spring Management of Overwintering Cover Crops - Don't Wait!, Cornell University Cooperative Extension