



PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 5 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Tall summer annual grass. Does best under hot conditions. Fast growing. Has regrowth potential, particularly when mowed/grazed high. Improved forage types available, cultivars may vary widely. Mix with cowpea, sunflower, and sunn hemp for a diverse summer mix. Tall varieties are very similar to sorghum-sudangrass except slightly lower biomass potential but still a good smother crop; better on acid and droughty soils; less allelopathy potential; less reputation for subsoiling; no prussic acid forage toxicity (but nitrates still a concern).





Millet, Pearl - Larson [2020]

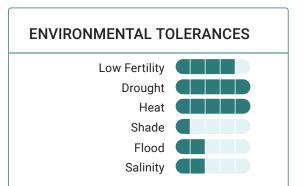
Millet, Pearl - Salon [2020]

GOALS

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

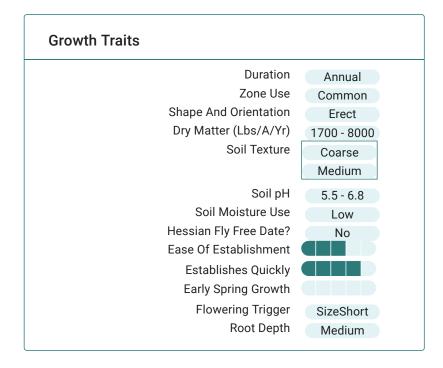
Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food

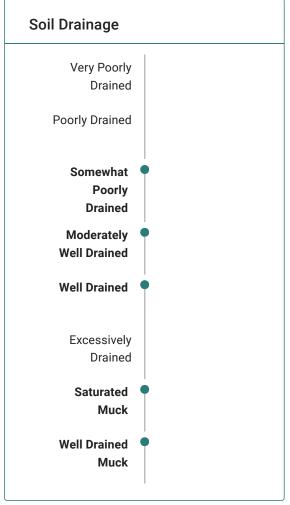
WEEDS Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds **Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds** Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence Volunteer Establishment

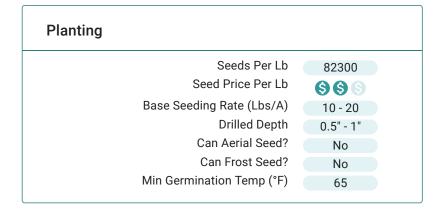


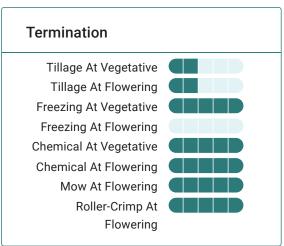


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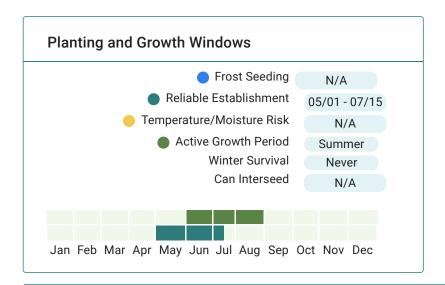








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Extended Comments

Taxonomy: ITIS name conflict: Cenchrus americanus

Basic Agronomics: production somewhat dependent on planting date but mostly dependent on the variety and season.

Forage and Grazing: Used as a summer forage cut to make baleage, or used for grazing. Use BMR forage varieteis for grazing or baleage.

Nematodes: Moderately resistant to root-knot nematode.

Insects: Proso millet (Panicum miliaceum L.) can attract the parasitoids Trichogrammatidae, Scelionidae, Ceraphronidae

References & Resources

Summer Cover Crops, Penn State Extension