



### PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 5 DATASET

### **COVER CROP DESCRIPTION**

Summer annual grass. Can grow in flooded soils and standing water. Adapted to soil with pH as low as 4.5. Prone to premature flowering if seeded late summer. Very responsive to nitrogen. Good smother crop at high seeding rate but may become weed if allowed to go to seed. Mix with cowpeas, soybeans to create a diverse summer mixture. Shorter, finerstemmed, lower-biomass option compared to sorghum-sudangrass or pearl millet. Does not mow-kill as well and may mature faster/reseed more easily than foxtail millet.





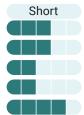


Millet, Japanese - Brown [2020]

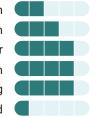
Millet, Japanese - Brown [2020] Millet, Japanese - Brown [2020]

# **GOALS**

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

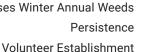


Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food



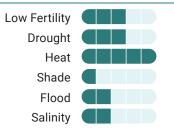
### **WEEDS**

Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds



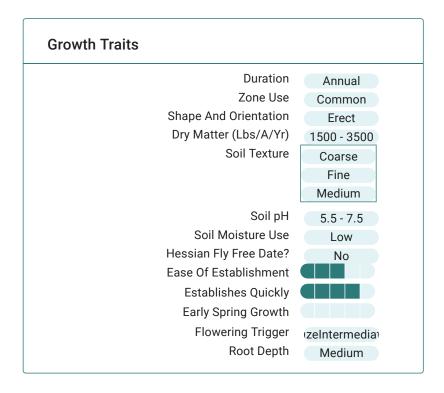


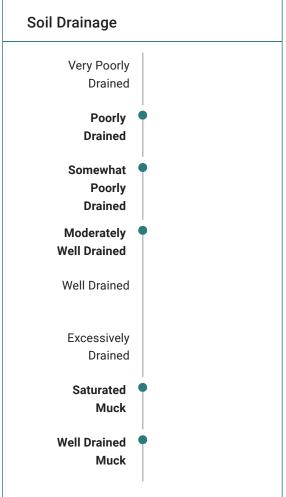
# **ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES**

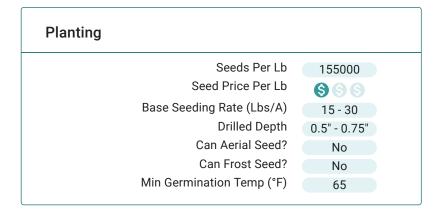


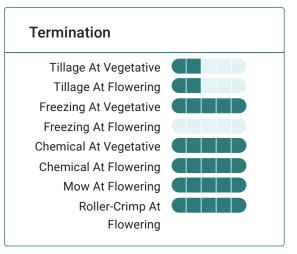


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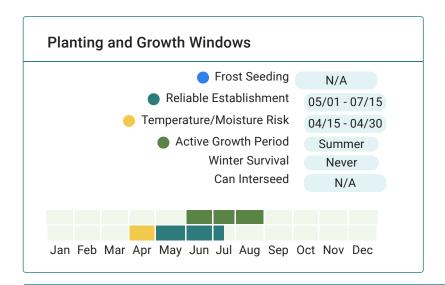








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### **Extended Comments**

Taxonomy: vs Echinochloa frumentacea

Planting: Daylength sensitive. Plant before mid-July to maximize biomass

Growth, Roots, and Nutrients: Plant in June to July in warm soils. ¼ to ½ inch deep. Japanese millet can grow in flooded soils and standing water as long as a portion of the plant remains above the top of the water. Consider Japanese Millet or Brown Top Millet as a summer annual in the North with somewhat cooler temps and acid soils. Grows rapidly, good summer annual smother crop. Fibrous roots that can grow 2 ft deep.

### References & Resources

**Cover Crops and Green Manures**, University of Vermont Extension

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

Cover Crops and Green Manures (New England Vegetable Management Guide), University of Massachusetts Extension

**Cover Cropping for Success**, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

**Cover Crops for Home Gardens**, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

**Using Green Manures**, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association

**Green Manures/Cover Crops**, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association