

PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 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). Does not easily sustain frost damage. 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]

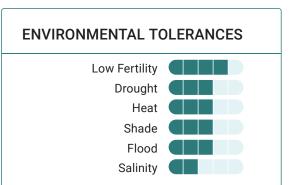
Triticale, Winter - Salon [2020]

GOALS

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

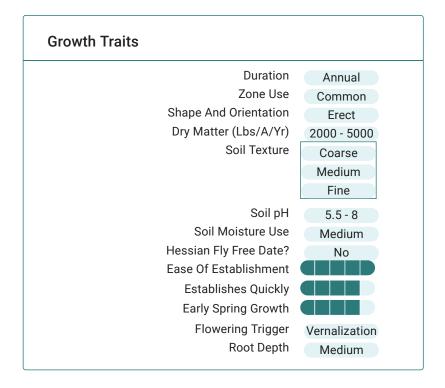
Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food

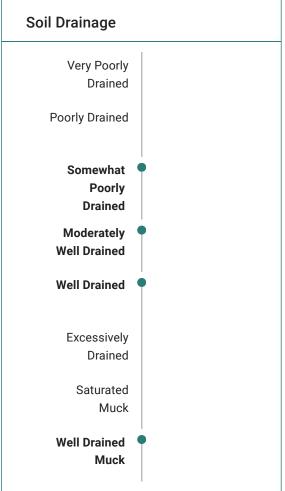
WEEDS Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds **Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds** Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence Volunteer Establishment

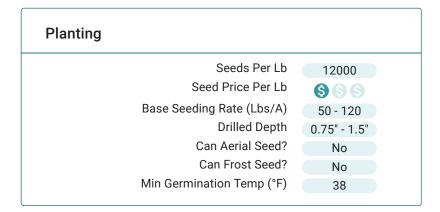


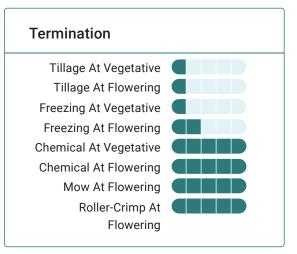


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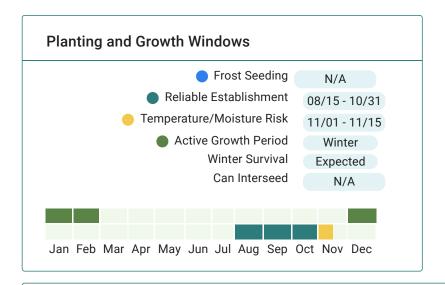








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Extended Comments

Termination: Flowering and freezing temps unlikely to co-occur.

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

Fall Cover Crops, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

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

Cover Cropping for Success, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

<u>Spring Management of Overwintering Cover Crops – Don't Wait!</u>, Cornell University Cooperative Extension