

PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 5 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Good forage, excellent for grazing. Potential for fast fall growth, high biomass, good N scavenging with adequate residual soil fertility. Cultivars can vary in bulb-vs.-leaf ratio, winter-hardiness, day-length response. Choose varieties that meet your needs. Big bulbs can be slow to break down, can interfere with subsequent operations like planting. Similar to radish/rapeseed, but much less taproot – instead makes bulb on surface. 'Purple Top' is a cheap, readily-available cultivar.

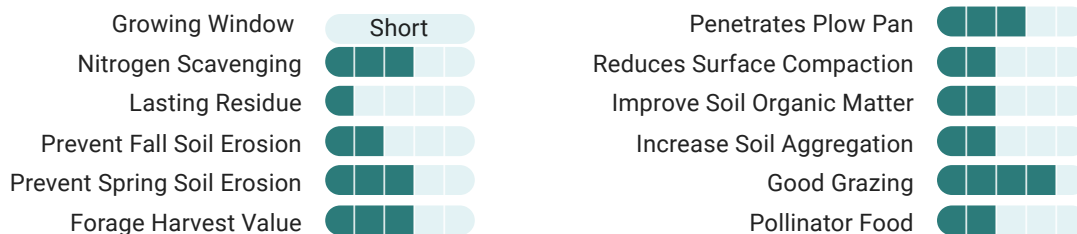


Turnip, Forage - Bjorkman [2020]

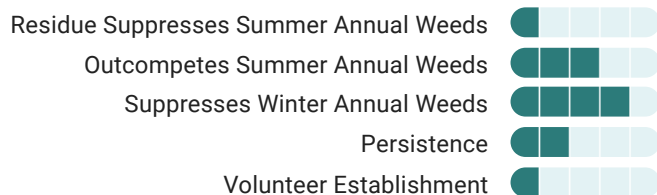


Turnip, Forage - Larson [2020]

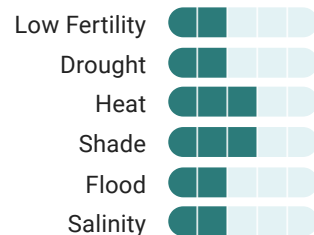
GOALS



WEEDS



ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES



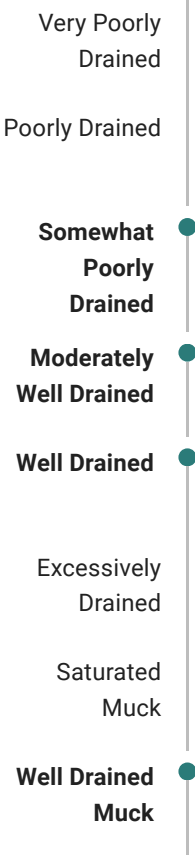


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Growth Traits

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Duration | Annual |
| Zone Use | Common |
| Shape And Orientation | Erect |
| Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr) | 800 - 3300 |
| Soil Texture | Coarse |
| | Fine |
| | Medium |
| Soil pH | 5 - 8 |
| Soil Moisture Use | High |
| Hessian Fly Free Date? | No |
| Ease Of Establishment | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Establishes Quickly | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Early Spring Growth | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Flowering Trigger | Vernalization |
| Root Depth | Medium |

Soil Drainage



Planting

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Seeds Per Lb | 192800 |
| Seed Price Per Lb | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Base Seeding Rate (Lbs/A) | 5 - 8 |
| Drilled Depth | 0.25" - 0.5" |
| Can Aerial Seed? | No |
| Can Frost Seed? | No |
| Min Germination Temp (°F) | 45 |

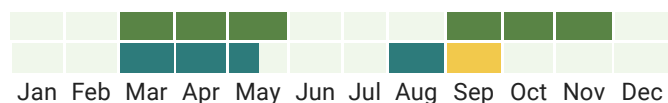
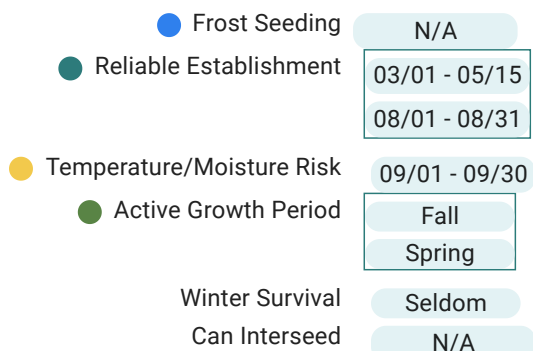
Termination

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Tillage At Vegetative | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Tillage At Flowering | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Freezing At Vegetative | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Freezing At Flowering | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Chemical At Vegetative | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Chemical At Flowering | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Mow At Flowering | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Roller-Crimp At Flowering | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |



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Planting and Growth Windows



Extended Comments

Basic Agronomics: This is only aboveground biomass does not include the turnip.

Forage and Grazing: Bloat risk and other animal health risks associated with brassicas. Forage turnips don't typically form bulbs. Bulb-forming type turnips can be stored for forage, but lifters and washing equipment are needed to do so.

Goals: Brassicas are excellent N scavengers but will winter-kill and release N potentially long before a cash crop is present. If N scavenging is goal, plant in mix with species that overwinters. While spring-planted forage turnip can protect against soil erosion in the spring, fall-planted forage turnip does not (due to rapid decomposition over winter).

Nematodes: Supports reproduction of some root-knot nematode species/races.

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
- [Pasture Production of Selected Forage Species](#), University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension
- [Cover Crops, Brassicas](#), University of Massachusetts Extension
- [Spring Management of Overwintering Cover Crops – Don't Wait!](#), Cornell University Cooperative Extension
- [Forage Turnip and Rapeseed](#), Cornell University Cooperative Extension
- [Early Spring Seasonal Cover Crops](#), Cornell University Cooperative Extension
- [Late Summer Crucifers](#), Cornell University Cooperative Extension