PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Does not overwinter when fall-seeded. Provides moderate weed suppression and N scavenging, has high forage quality. Needs adequate fertility for maximum benefits. Good nurse crop. Not a host for take-all disease of small grains. Select spring types that go to stalk/head/seed without vernalization. Mix with radish, peas. Compared to other small grains: lowest biomass, lower C:N, lower tolerance for dry/wet extremes.









Oats, Black - Schomberg [2020]

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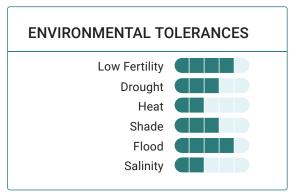
Oats, Black - Eagen [2020]

GOALS

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

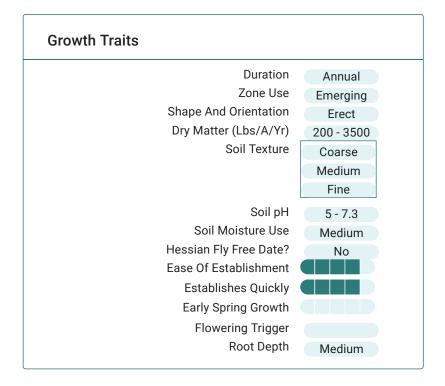
Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food

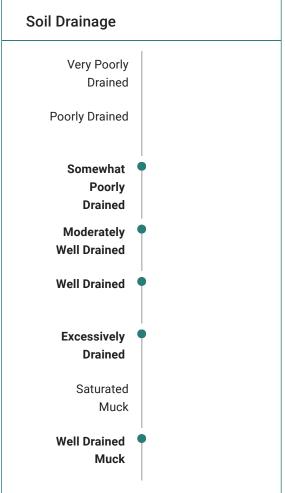
WEEDS Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds **Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds** Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence Volunteer Establishment

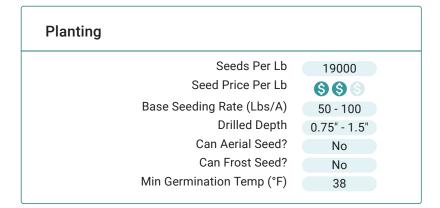


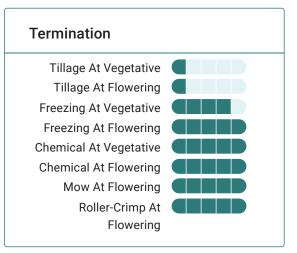
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PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

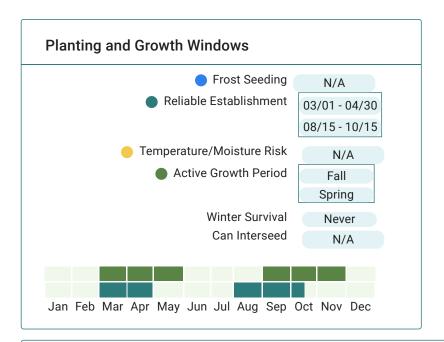








♠ PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET



Extended Comments

Taxonomy: Does it grow in the north?

Basic Agronomics: Used more in the south, some southeastern PA use. Dry matter highly dependent on planting and termination date and precipitation. Prone to lodging in N-rich soil; decomposition depends on maturity at kill. When planted in September will grow faster than rye. If planted early enough (e.g. after peas), it creates a very good lasting residue. Bloat potential that is easily managed. Nitrate testing of forage is recommended.

Weeds: Slow to release N to following crop unless growth terminated in mid-vegetative stage (12-18 in.).

Disease: Information too limited to rate P and K effect and Nematodes or Disease. Tolerates cold temperatures. Information too limited to rate disadvantages to Crop Disease. Tolerates frost and cold temperatures; Slow to release N to following crop unless growth terminated in mid-vegetative stage (12-18 in.). Host for Penetrans Root-Lesion Nematode.

Nematodes: Host for Penetrans Root-Lesion Nematode.

References & Resources

Fall Cover Crops, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension