

Grass  
**Sudangrass**  
Sorghum X drummondii



## PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

### COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Excellent summer grass choice. Plant in early summer; does not tolerate cool soils. Fast-grower, big biomass potential in the presence of lots of soil N. Regrows well after mowing/grazing. Excellent subsoiler with thicker roots than most grasses. Excellent weed suppressor due to competition and allelopathy (caution if next crop is small-seeded). Good forage, but prussic acid and nitrate content can be a problem. Slow drydown will limit dry hay production; chop or wrap for forage. Improved forage types available, cultivars may vary widely. Can produce large amount of biomass; mow or kill in a timely fashion. Can substitute forage sorghum or sudangrass. Can substitute sorghum or sorghum-sudangrass. Mix with cowpea, sunn hemp and sunflower for a diverse summer mix.

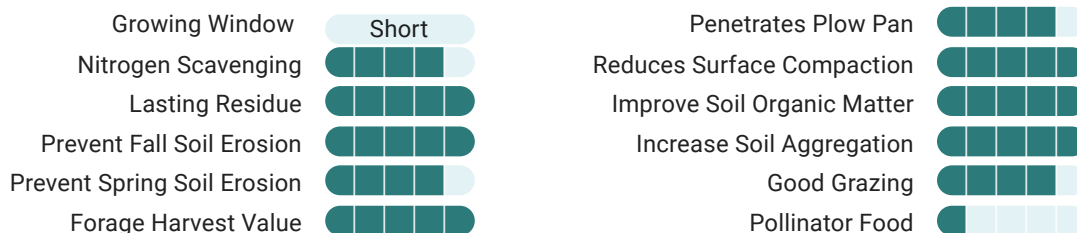


Sudangrass - Ziegler [2020]

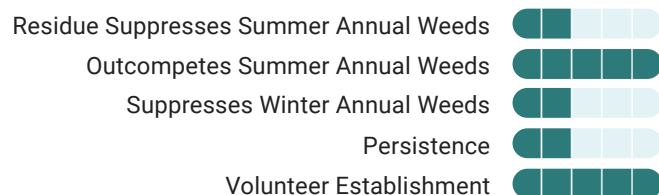


Sudangrass - Ziegler [2020]

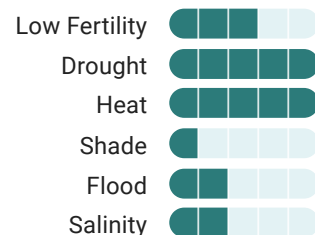
### GOALS



### WEEDS



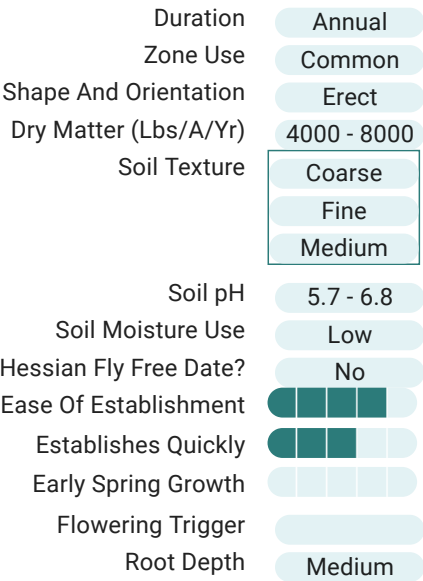
### ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES



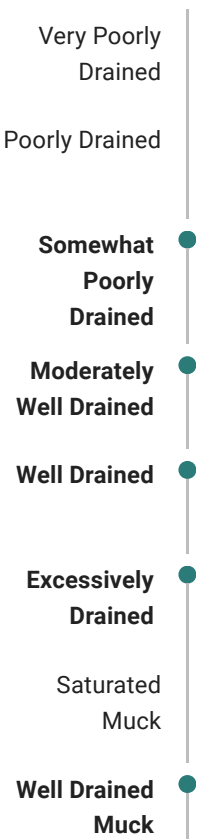


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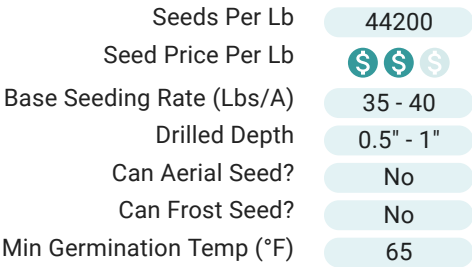
Growth Traits



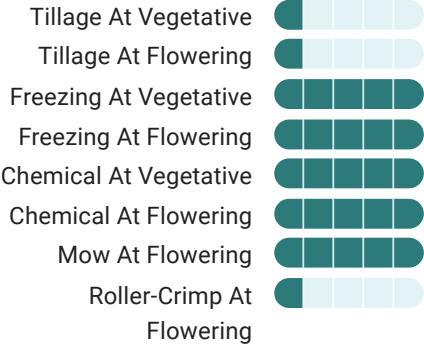
Soil Drainage



Planting



Termination



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Planting and Growth Windows

Frost Seeding	N/A
Reliable Establishment	05/15 - 08/15
Temperature/Moisture Risk	05/01 - 05/15
Active Growth Period	Summer
Winter Survival	Never
Can Interseed	N/A



Extended Comments

**Nematodes:** Host for lesion nematode.

References & Resources

**Cover Crops and Green Manure Crops – Benefits, Selection, and Use**, Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension  
**Choosing Cover Crops**, University of Massachusetts Extension  
**Summer Cover Crops**, University of Massachusetts Extension  
**Cover Crops for Home Gardens**, University of Maine Cooperative Extension  
**Sudangrass and Sorghum-Sudangrass**, Cornell University Cooperative Extension  
**Early Summer Seasonal Cover Crops**, Cornell University Cooperative Extension  
**Mid and Late Summer Seasonal Cover Crops**, Cornell University Cooperative Extension  
**Summer Cover Crops**, Penn State Extension