



PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 5 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]

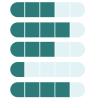
GOALS

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**

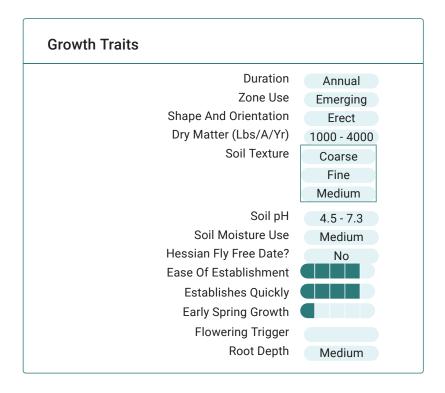
Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence Volunteer Establishment

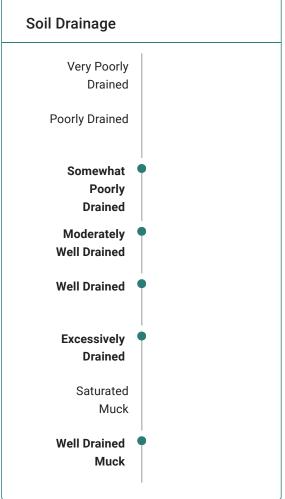


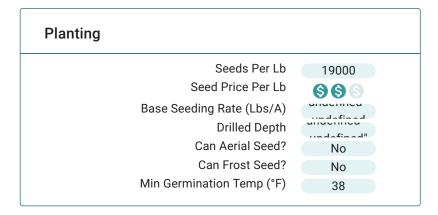
ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

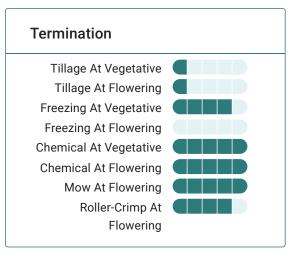
Low Fertility Drought Heat Shade Flood Salinity

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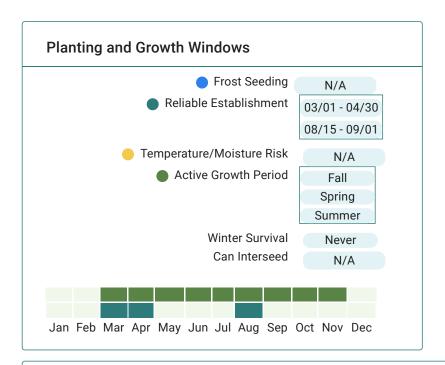








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Extended Comments

Basic Agronomics: 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.).

Nematodes: Host for Penetrans Root-Lesion Nematode.

References & Resources

Use of Cover Crops and Green Manures to Attract Beneficial Insects, University of Connecticut Integrated Pest Management Program

Multiple Purpose Cover Crops, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut <u>Under Cover – Integrating Cover Crops into Silage Corn Systems</u>, University of Vermont Extension