



PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Does not overwinter when fall-seeded. Good weed suppressor, ok N scavenger, high forage quality. Needs good fertility for maximum benefits. Good nurse crop. Not a host for take-all disease. Mix with radish, peas. Planted early in fall, but last small grain to mature in spring. Compared to other small grains: lowest biomass, slightly lower C:N, lower tolerance for dry/wet extremes.







Oats, Spring - Bjorkman [2020]

Oats, Spring - Ackroyd [2020]

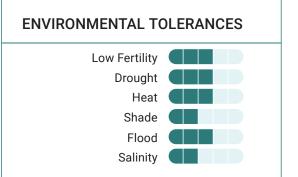
Oats, Spring - Ackroyd [2020]

GOALS

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

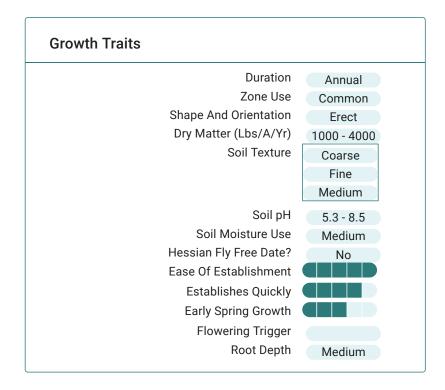
Penetrates Plow Pan **Reduces Surface Compaction** Improve Soil Organic Matter Increase Soil Aggregation **Good Grazing** Pollinator Food

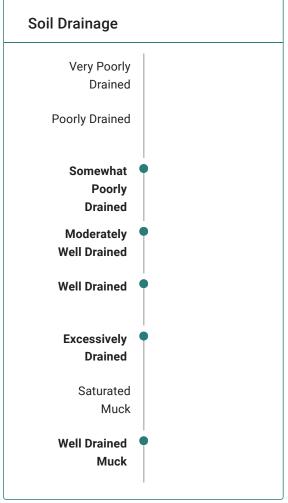
WEEDS Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds **Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds** Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds Persistence Volunteer Establishment

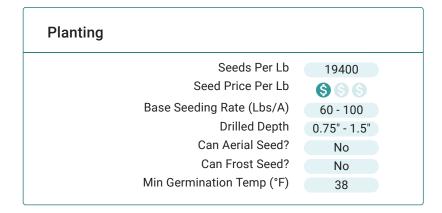


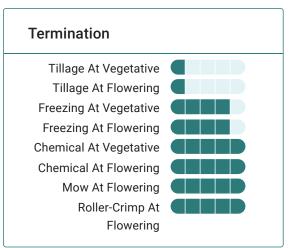


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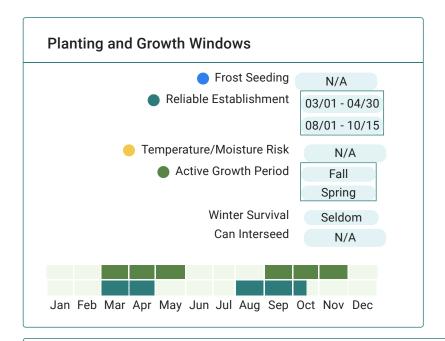








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Extended Comments

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.

Forage and Grazing: Bears traffic very well when drilled.

Disease: Information too limited to rate P and K effect. Cleaned, bin-run seed will suffice; Non host for soybean cyst nematode and root knot nematode. Bears traffic very well when drilled. Some data suggest that oats were less effective at reducing marestail than barley or cereal rye.

Nematodes: Non host for soybean cyst nematode and root knot 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

Fall Cover Crops, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

Spring Planted Cover Crops for Vegetable Rotations, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension