Grass
Oats, Black
Avena strigosa

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 - Schomberg [2020]


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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Growth Traits

Duration	Annual
Zone Use	Emerging
Shape And Orientation	Erect
Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr)	200 - 3500
Soil Texture	Coarse Medium Fine
Soil pH	5 - 7.3
Soil Moisture Use	Medium
Hessian Fly Free Date?	No
Ease Of Establishment	
Establishes Quickly	
Early Spring Growth	
Flowering Trigger	
Root Depth	Medium

Soil Drainage

- Very Poorly Drained
- Poorly Drained
- **Somewhat Poorly Drained**
- **Moderately Well Drained**
- **Well Drained**
- **Excessively Drained**
- Saturated Muck
- **Well Drained Muck**

Planting

Seeds Per Lb	19000
Seed Price Per Lb	$$
Base Seeding Rate (Lbs/A)	50 - 100
Drilled Depth	0.75" - 1.5"
Can Aerial Seed?	No
Can Frost Seed?	No
Min Germination Temp (°F)	38

Termination

- Tillage At Vegetative
- Tillage At Flowering
- Freezing At Vegetative
- Freezing At Flowering
- Chemical At Vegetative
- Chemical At Flowering
- Mow At Flowering
- Roller-Crimp At Flowering

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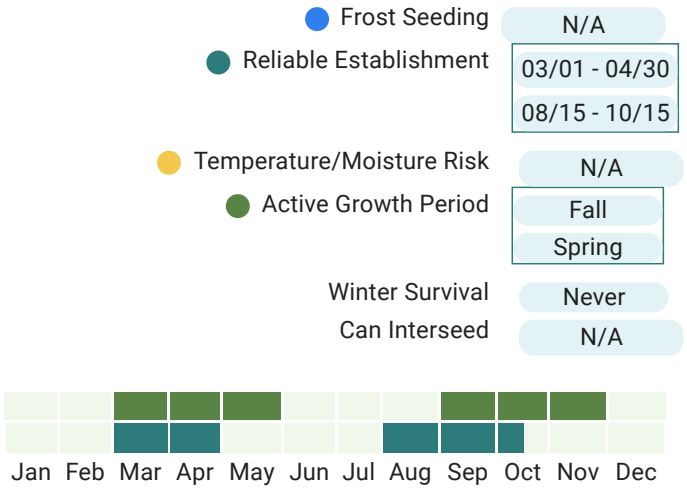
Planting and Growth Windows



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.

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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