

Secale cereale



COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Most commonly-grown cover crop in the US. Most winter-hardy cover crop. Best winter cover for low-fertility or acid soils. Tolerates wet soil. Winter cereal rye requires vernalization (overwintering) to flower and will likely fail to flower if planted in spring. Best winter cover for many purposes: excellent for biomass, N scavenging, weed control. Good forage, but low quality after heading. Best choice for roller-crimping. Height, biomass, high C:N ratio at maturity may hinder the growth of a following non-legume cash crop. Potential weed if it sets seed, especially in small grain cash crops. Mixes well with legumes. Can plant later than any small grain, but goes to head early in spring – only barley is earlier.



Cereal Rye, Winter - Ackroyd [2020]




Cereal Rye, Winter - Bjorkman [2020]



Cereal Rye, Winter - Ackroyd [2020]

GOALS

Short



WEEDS



ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

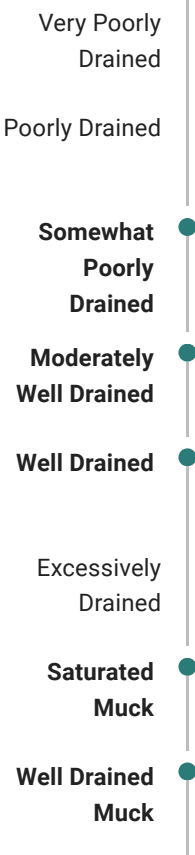


PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

Growth Traits

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Duration | Annual |
| Zone Use | Common |
| Shape And Orientation | Erect |
| Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr) | 2500 - 6000 |
| Soil Texture | Coarse |
| | Medium |
| Soil pH | 4.5 - 8.2 |
| Soil Moisture Use | High |
| Hessian Fly Free Date? | No |
| Ease Of Establishment | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Establishes Quickly | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Early Spring Growth | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Flowering Trigger | Vernalization |
| Root Depth | Medium |

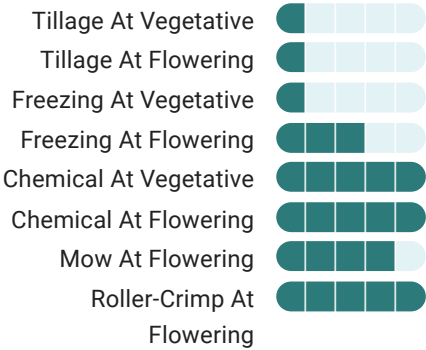
Soil Drainage



Planting

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Seeds Per Lb | 18200 |
| Seed Price Per Lb | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |
| Base Seeding Rate (Lbs/A) | 50 - 120 |
| Drilled Depth | 0.75" - 1.5" |
| Can Aerial Seed? | Yes |
| Can Frost Seed? | No |
| Min Germination Temp (°F) | 34 |

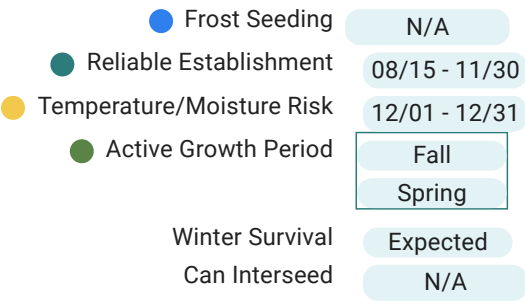
Termination





PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

Planting and Growth Windows



Extended Comments

Planting: If you are planning to use as a killed cover crop mulch for following crop you need to seed at higher rate - up to 150 lbs/acre

Growth, Roots, and Nutrients: Deep rooting to recover nitrogen requires earlier planting than plantings for winter erosion protection

Forage and Grazing: Can be lightly grazed in the fall and again in the spring, or harvested in the spring as rylage.

Weeds: Can become a weed if tilled at wrong stage; Best if killed early; Not recommended before corn; Mow-kills after heading

Insects: Use as a winter crop and terminated in early or late spring has no impact on arthropods in a subsequent soybean crop



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

Cover Crop Research at the University of Rhode Island, University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension

Cover Crops and Green Manure Crops – Benefits, Selection, and Use, Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension

Pasture Production of Selected Forage Species, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

UNH Researchers Find Forage Radish is the Cream of Cover Crops, University of New Hampshire Ag Experiment Station

Cover Crops, University of Massachusetts Extension

Cover Crops and Green Manures (New England Vegetable Management Guide), University of Massachusetts Extension

Choosing Cover Crops, University of Massachusetts Extension

Late Season Cover Crops, University of Massachusetts Extension

Plant Cover Crops, University of Maryland Extension

Cover Cropping for Success, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Cover Crops for Home Gardens, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Selected Green Manures and Cover Crops for Maine, University of Maine

Cover Crops – What a Difference a Few Weeks Makes, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Spring Management of Overwintering Cover Crops – Don't Wait!, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Rye, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Early Spring Seasonal Cover Crops, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Early Fall Seasonal Cover Crops, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Fall Seasonal Cover Crops, Cornell University Cooperative Extension

Cover Crops for Conservation Tillage Systems, Penn State Extension

Suppressing Weeds Using Cover Crops in Pennsylvania, Penn State Extension

Plant Cover Crops, USDA NRCS

Cover Crops in Home Gardens Improve Soil and Reduce Erosion, Penn State Extension

This Isn't Your Father's Cereal Rye, Penn State Extension

Planting Green – A New Cover Crop Management Technique, Penn State Extension

Cover Crop Rollers for Northeastern Grain Production, Penn State Extension