



PREVENTED PLANT

Cover Crop Options

Name	Suggested Optimum Planting Dates (MN Cover Crop Decision Tool)	Suggested Planting Rate (MN Cover Crop Decision Tool) (Cover Crops Field Guide)
Millet (Foxtail, Pearl, etc.)	May 20 - July 25	20-25 lbs/A
Sorghum-Sudangrass	May 20 - July 25	25-30 lbs/A
Sudangrass	May 20 - July 25	25-30 lbs/A 15-20 lbs/A
Oats	July 10 - September 1	30-50 lbs/A
Annual Ryegrass	July 10 - September 1	15-20 lbs/A
Winter Cereal Rye	July 10 - October 20	55-100 lbs/A
Wheat (spring or winter)	July 10 - October 20	50-90 lbs/A
Triticale	July 10 - October 20	50-90 lbs/A
Barley (spring or winter)	July 10 - August 15	50-75 lbs/A
Buckwheat	June 10 - August 15	45-60 lbs/A 20-35 lbs/A
Flax	July 10 - September 1	30-50 lbs/A
Radish (Tillage, Daikon, etc.)	July 25 - September 15	8-15 lbs/A 5-10 lbs/A
Forage Turnip	July 25 - September 15	1-4 lbs/A
Canola	July 25 - September 15	2-5 lbs/A
Mustard	July 25 - September 15	4-8 lbs/A
Berseem Clover	July 25 - September 1	8-15 lbs/A
Crimson Clover	July 25 - September 1	10-15 lbs/A
Red Clover	July 25 - August 15	8-12 lbs/A
White Clover	July 25 - August 15	5-8 lbs/A
Cowpea	May 20 - August 15	30-90 lbs/A
Field or Winter Pea	July 25 - September 20	30-90 lbs/A 50-80 lbs/A
Vetch	July 25 - August 15	15-25 lbs/A
Alfalfa	July 25 - August 15	12-16 lbs/A
Soybeans	July 10 - August 15	30-40 lbs/A

- The Brassica species tend to decompose quickly in the spring. It is believed that nitrogen does become available earlier in the growing season due to this fast decomposition.
- Grasses are not considered to be nitrogen sources. However, as the plant material decomposes, nitrogen is released and some will become available for the cash crop.
- Mixtures of two or more cover crop species will provide more benefits than a single species.
- **IMPORTANT:** If taking the full prevented plant option, haying or grazing is not allowed until after November 1.
- **IMPORTANT:** Contact Farm Service Agency for the MN Approved Cover Types and Practices for Idled Base Acres and the Cover Crop Recommendations/Seed Dates for Idled Base Acres.

Name	Nitrogen Source	Nitrogen Scavenger	Erosion Preventer	Weed Fighter	Subsoiler	Forage Value
GRASSES						
Millet (Foxtail, Pearl, etc.)	-	***	***	***	**	**
Sorghum-Sudangrass	-	****	***	****	**	****
Sudangrass	-	****	***	****	*	****
Oats	-	***	***	***	*	***
Annual Ryegrass	-	***	***	**	****	***
Winter Cereal Rye	-	****	****	****	***	***
Wheat (spring or winter)	-	***	***	***	**	***
Triticale	-	****	****	***	**	***
Barley (spring or winter)	-	***	***	***	**	**
BROADLEAVES						
Buckwheat	-	***	**	***	-	-
Flax	-	**	*	-	**	-
BRASSICAS						
Radish (Tillage, Daikon, etc.)	-	***	**	***	****	**
Forage Turnip	-	***	**	***	-	**
Canola	-	***	**	**	**	*
Mustard	-	***	**	**	**	*
LEGUMES						
Berseem Clover	****	**	***	**	*	***
Crimson Clover	***	**	**	**	**	***
Red Clover	****	**	****	***	**	***
White Clover	**	**	***	**	-	***
Cowpea	***	*	**	**	-	**
Field or Winter Pea	**	**	**	*	*	***
Vetch	****	**	**	**	**	*
Alfalfa	***	**	***	**	***	****
Soybeans	**	**	*	**	-	**

(Excellent **** Very Good *** Good ** Fair *)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Midwest Cover Crop Council's Minnesota Cover Crop Decision Tool (CCDT)
<http://mcccddev.anr.msu.edu/VertIndex.php>

Midwest Cover Crops Field Guide
<https://ag.purdue.edu/agry/dtc/Pages/CCFG.aspx>

USDA-ARS Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory – Cover Crop Chart
<http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=20323>

NCR-SARE Cover Crops Learning Center
<http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Topic-Rooms/Cover-Crops>

DOCUMENT SOURCE

Jill Sackett
 U of M Extension Educator
 sacke032@umn.edu
 507-389-6714