

Cover Crop Seeding Schedule

Know when to plant cover crops to take advantage of their benefits!



Approximate Seeding Periods

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Frost Seeding – red clover											
	■	■									
Early Spring – annual rye grass, barley, oats, field pea, hairy vetch											
		■	■	■							
Spring – oats, alfalfa, field pea, red clover, mustards, oilseed radish, rapeseed/canola, turnip (forage type)											
			■	■	■						
Summer – millets, sorghum-Sudangrass, Sudangrass, alfalfa, berseem clover, crimson clover, sweet clover, buckwheat											
				■	■	■	■				
Late Summer/Early Fall – annual rye grass, barley, oats, alfalfa, field pea, hairy vetch, winter pea, mustards, oilseed radish, rapeseed/canola, turnip (forage type)											
								■	■	■	
Fall – rye, wheat											
								■	■	■	

Additional Resources

Cornell University: Cover Crop Decision Tool

<http://covercrops.cals.cornell.edu/decision-tool.php>

Works Cited

[1] Midwest Cover Crops Council, Midwest Cover Crops Field Guide, Indiana: Purdue Agriculture Communication, 2012.