

## Annual Forage Agronomic Guidelines and Characteristics

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Yield and nutritive value vary greatly with maturity stage at harvest

Forage crop	Pure stand seed rate (lb/acre)	Planting dates <sup>1</sup>	Planting depth (inches)	Nitrogen rate (lbs/acre)	Dry matter yield (ton/acre)	CP (%)	NDF (%)
<b>Corn silage</b>	28-34k <sup>2</sup>	4/20 - 6/15	1.5 – 2.0	Variable <sup>3</sup>	5 - 9	6 - 9	38-50
<b>Spring oat</b>	75-100	3/15-4/15 or 8/1-9/7	1.5	50-70	2.5-3.5 or 0.8-3.0	10-16	52-65
<b>Spring triticale</b>	90-110	3/15-4/15 or 8/1-9/7	1.5	50-70	2.5-3.5 or 0.8-3.0	10-18	50-65
<b>Winter rye</b>	110	9/1-10/15	1.5	50-70	2-4 in spring	10-18	51-65
<b>Winter wheat</b>	110-120	9/22-10/13 <sup>4</sup>	1.5	50-70	2-4 in spring	10-18	50-65
<b>Winter triticale</b>	110-120	9/20-10/10	1.5	50-70	2-4 in spring	10-18	50-65
<b>Annual/Italian ryegrass</b>	20-25	4/1-5/1 or 8/1-9/7	¼ - ½	40-50 each cut	2.5-6.0	11-19	50-65
<b>Forage sorghum</b>	8-12	5/1-7/15	½ - 1	Variable <sup>3</sup>	7-8	7-12	50-66
<b>Sudangrass, sorghum-sudan</b>	20-25	5/1-7/15	½ - 1	Variable <sup>3</sup>	3.5-5.0	9-15	55-68
<b>Pearl millet</b>	15-20	5/1-7/15	½ - 1	Variable <sup>3</sup>	3.0-4.5	8-17	56-67
<b>Teff</b>	4-5	5/15-7/15	⅛ – ¼	50-60	2-4	13-16	55-65
<b>Kale</b>	3.5-4.0	4/15-6/7	¼ - ½	50-75	3-4	15-20	18-20
<b>Rape</b>	3.5-4.0	4/15-6/7 or 7/10-8/7	¼ - ½	50-75	3.0-3.5	15-20	18-20
<b>Swede</b>	1.5-2.0	4/15-6/7	¼ - ½	50-75	3-4	15-20	18-20
<b>Turnip, turnip hybrids</b>	1.5-2.0	4/15-6/7 or 7/10-8/7	¼ - ½	50-75	3.0-3.5	15-20	18-20

<sup>1</sup> Planting dates for Ohio. In southern Ohio, the spring dates should be in the early range, and in the fall, they can be in the later range.

<sup>2</sup> 28,000 to 34,000 seeds per acre; seed companies provide hybrid specific planting rates. Corn cover crop seeding may require different rates.

<sup>3</sup> For corn nitrogen recommendations see <http://cnrc.agron.iastate.edu/>, for sorghum grasses see Ohio Agronomy Guide, Chapter 7.

<sup>4</sup> Best to plant after Hessian Fly safe date, consult Ohio Agronomy Guide for dates by region.

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