

Quick Summary of Cover Crop Characteristics

*Rating Scale: 1 (least effective) --> 5 (most effective) | † = not determined

Cover crop	Type	Life Cycle	Growth Habit	Nitrogen Fixation *	Nitrogen Scavenging *	Quick Growth *	Lasting Residue *	Organic Matter - Soil Builder *	Weed Suppression *	Compaction Reduction *	Erosion Reduction *	Forage Harvest Value *	Grain/Seed Harvest Value *	Biofumigation *	Flood Tolerance *	Heat Tolerance *	Drought Tolerance *	Shade Tolerance *	Low Fertility Tolerance *	Salinity Tolerance *	Drainage Class	pH	Winter Hardiness Zone	Seeding Rate lbs/acre	Broadcast lbs/acre	Frost Seeding	Minimum Germ Temp (°F)	Interseed Potential *	Volunteer Estab *	Nitrogen Contribution lbs/acre
Barley, Spring	Grass	WSA	u	n/a	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	3	2	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	1	2	2	3	2	3	3	mw-w	6.0-8.5	9	50-100	80-150	N	38	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	†
Barley, Winter	Grass	CSA	u	n/a	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	3	<u>5</u>	4	<u>4</u>	1	2	2	3	2	3	3	mw-w	6.0-8.5	5-9	50-100	80-150	N	38	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	†
Buckwheat	Broadleaf	CSA	u,su	n/a	2	<u>5</u>	1	3	<u>5</u>	1	2	1	2	1	2	<u>4</u>	2	2	<u>4</u>	2	mw-w	5.0-7.0	n/a	30-70	50-90	N	50	2	<u>5</u>	†
Clover, Alsike	Legume	CSA	u,su	†	†	2	3	n/a	2	†	3	3	†	2	3	†	2	3	†	2	pd-wd	†	4-9	6-12	8-14	Y	†	†	†	†
Clover, Berseem	Legume	CSA	u,su	<u>5</u>	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	<u>4</u>	3	†	3	<u>4</u>	3	3	3	3	sp-wd	6.2-7.0	8-9	8-15	15-20	Y	42	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	75-200
Clover, Crimson	Legume	CSA	u,su	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	2	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	3	†	3	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	3	2	sp-wd	5.5-7.0	5-9	15-18	22-30	N	42	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	70-130
Clover, Red	Legume	CSA	u	<u>4</u>	3	2	2	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	3	†	3	3	3	<u>4</u>	3	2	sp-wd	6.0-7.5	4-9	8-10	10-12	Y	41	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	70-150
Clover, Subterranean	Legume	CSA	p,sp	<u>5</u>	2	3	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	3	3	2	1	†	3	3	3	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	†	sp-wd	5.5-7.0	7-9	10-20	20-30	†	38	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	75-200
Clover, White	Legume	CSP	u	<u>4</u>	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	<u>4</u>	2	†	3	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	3	2	sp-wd	6.0-7.0	4-9	3-14	4-17	Y	40	3	<u>5</u>	80-200
Mustard	Broadleaf	CSA	u	n/a	3	<u>4</u>	2	3	<u>4</u>	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	pd-wd	5.5-8.0	7-9	4-15	5-18	N	40	2	<u>5</u>	†
Oats, Spring	Grass	CSA	u	n/a	3	<u>4</u>	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	3	2	3	†	pd-e	4.5-8.0	n/a	50-110	110-140	N	38	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	†
Peas, Field	Legume	CSA	p,c	<u>5</u>	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	<u>4</u>	1	2	2	3	3	3	2	sp-e	6.0-7.5	5-9	50-90	60-108	Y	42	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	90-150
Phacelia	Broadleaf	CSA	u	n/a	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	†	†	3	3	3	3	3	1	pd-e	6.5-8.5	9	2-10	2-12	N	38	†	3	†
Radish, Forage	Broadleaf	CSA	u	n/a	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	2	2	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	sp-e	6.0-7.5	6-9	8-13	10-20	N	45	2	3	50-200
Rye, Fall	Grass	CSA	u	n/a	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	3	2	<u>5</u>	3	2	1	2	3	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	sp-e	5.0-7.0	4-9	60-120	90-160	Y	34	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	0-20
Ryegrass, Annual	Grass	CSA/BI	u	n/a	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	2	1	<u>4</u>	3	2	<u>4</u>	2	3	sp-e	5.5-7.0	6-9	10-35	12-42	N	40	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	†
Sorghum-Sudangrass	Grass	WSA	u	n/a	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	3	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	3	3	3	3	<u>5</u>	3	2	3	sp-e	5.5-8.0	n/a	15-35	18-42	N	65	1	<u>4</u>	†
Sweetclover	Legume	CSA/BI	u	<u>5</u>	2	3	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	3	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	3	3	1	3	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	3	<u>4</u>	3	sp-e	6.5-7.5	4-9	6-15	15-20	N	42	3	2	20-170
Triticale, Winter	Grass	CSA	u	n/a	<u>5</u>	3	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	3	3	1	3	2	3	3	3	2	sp-e	5.5-8.0	4-9	50-120	60-144	N	38	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	†
Vetch, Common	Legume	CSA	p,c	<u>5</u>	2	<u>4</u>	1	3	3	2	3	2	2	†	2	3	3	3	3	3	sp-wd	6.0-8.0	7-9	10-60	11-72	N	58	3	<u>5</u>	50-100
Vetch, Hairy	Legume	CSA	p,c	<u>5</u>	2	<u>4</u>	1	<u>4</u>	3	2	3	1	2	†	2	3	3	3	3	2	sp-wd	6.0-7.5	4-9	15-30	25-40	N	58	3	<u>5</u>	90-120
Wheat, Spring	Grass	CSA	u	n/a	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	3	3	3	<u>5</u>	1	1	2	2	3	2	3	2	sp-e	5.5-8.0	8-9	70-150	77-165	N	38	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	†
Wheat, Winter	Grass	CSA	u	n/a	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	3	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	1	2	3	3	3	3	2	sp-e	5.5-8.0	4-9	63-125	75-150	N	38	3	<u>5</u>	†

Growth Habit: u = Upright | su = Semi-Upright | p = Prostrate | sp = Semi-Prostrate | c = Climbing

Drainage Classification: p = poorly drained | sp = somewhat poorly drained | mw = Moderately well drained | w = Well drained | e = Excessively drained

Life Cycle: CSA = Cool Season Annual | CSP= Cool Season Perennial | WSA= Warm Season Annual | B=Biennial