WINTER TRITICALE

X TRITICOSECALE - WINTER BIENNIAL GRASS

PRODUCTION GOALS

Not Effective — Very Effective

Quick Growth	
Lasting Residue	
Soil Builder	
Nitrogen Fixation	n/a
Nitrogen Scavenging	
Erosion Reduction	
Compaction Reduction	
Biofumigation Potential	
Weed Suppression	
Forage Harvest Value	
Grain Harvest Value	

Winter triticale has an upright growth habit and a medium depth fibrous root system. Triticale is a cross between wheat and rye. The crop must overwinter before stem elongation, flowering and grain fill can occur (vernalization). High biomass potential similar to fall rye, but has less weed suppression than fall rye.

TOLERANCES

Flood	
Heat	
Drought	
Shade	
Low Fertility	
Salinity	
Optimal pH	5.5 - 8.0

SOIL DRAINAGE CLASS

- Very Well
- Well
- Moderately Well
- Somewhat Poor
- Poorly
- Very Poorly

AREA & ADAPTABILITY

Winter triticale is a winter annual suitable for all regions of British Columbia. It is able to tolerate a wide range of conditions making it suitable for many field locations and soil types.

Winter Hardiness Zone - 4-9

Seeding Considerations

Rate Drilled	Rate Broadcast	Depth	Frost Seeding	Minimum Germination Temperature	Seeds #
50-120 lbs/ac (56-124 kg/ha)	60-144 lbs/ac (67-161 kg/ha)	0.5-2 in (2-4 cm)	No	3°C (38°F)	12,000 /lb (5500 /kg)

Planting date impacts N scavenging ability, spring biomass production and fall ground cover. Early seedings have opportunity to take up more N before fall/winter precipitation, provide more time for ground cover and have higher spring biomass production.

Management Considerations

Winter triticale has high forage quality if harvested at a vegetative stage, and is often blended with Italian ryegrass in areas where the ryegrass will overwinter for additional yield and quality. There are genetics available that have reduced awn expression for higher palatability for livestock.

When seeding later than the optimal seeding date, higher seeding rates can be beneficial to increase the stand density. There is a wide range of winter triticale varieties available with varying disease resistance and winterhardiness.

Inter-seeding Potential ▮▮▮▮▯

Volunteer Establishment ▮▮▮▮▮

Nitrogen Concentration No data

Dry Matter Yield

1000 - 6000 lbs/acre

1120 - 6720 kg/ha

Termination

Winter triticale can be terminated by tillage, mowing after stem elongation or through a chemical application.

References

- Elmy, K. 2020. Cover Cropping in Western Canada. Friesen Press.
- Midwest Cover Crop Council. (n.d.)
- Northeast Cover Crop Council. (n.d.)
- Odhiambo, J., Temple, W.D., A. Bomke. 2012. Managing Cover Crops for Conservation Purposes in the Fraser River Delta, British Columbia. In: Crop Management - Cases and Tools for Higher Yield and Sustainability.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture. (n.d.). Pacific Northwest Cover Crop Selection Tool.

Disclaimer

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Agriculture and Food

BRITISH COLUMBIA | AgriServiceBC

FACTSHEET DEVELOPED BY:

BRITISH COLUMBIA FORAGE COUNCIL