

Perennial Legume Options

Forage crop	Seeding Rate (lb/ac)	Planting Dates (S & F)	Planting Depth (in.)
Alfalfa	15	3/20 - 4/25 8/1 - 8/30	1/4 - 1/2
Birdsfoot trefoil	9	3/20 - 4/25	0 - 1/4
Red clover	11	2/1 - 4/25 8/1 - 8/20	1/4 - 1/2
White clover	5	2/1 - 4/15 8/1 - 8/20	0 - 1/4

Perennial Grass Options

Forage crop	Seeding Rate (lb/ac)	Planting Dates (S & F)	Planting Depth (in.)
Kentucky bluegrass	10	3/5 – 4/20 8/1 – 8/30	0 – ¼
Orchardgrass	10	3/5 – 4/20 8/1 – 8/30	¼ – ½
Perennial rye	24	Not Recommended	¼ – ½
Reed canarygrass	10	3/5 – 4/20 8/1 – 8/25	¼ – ½
Smooth bromegrass	16	3/5 – 4/20 8/1 – 8/30	0 – ½
Tall fescue	15	3/5 – 4/20 8/1 – 8/30	¼ – ½
Timothy	8	3/1 – 4/20 8/1 – 10/15	¼ – ½

Annual Forage Agronomic Guidelines and Characteristics

R. Mark Sulc (sulc.2@osu.edu)

Yield and nutritive value vary greatly with maturity at harvest. For additional details see Ohio Agronomy Guide.

Forage crop	Pure stand seed rate (lb/acre)	Planting dates ¹	Planting depth (inches)	Nitrogen rate (lbs/acre)	Dry matter yield (ton/acre)	CP (%)	NDF (%)
Corn silage	28-34k ²	4/20 - 6/15	1.5 - 2.0	Variable ³	5 - 9	6 - 9	38-50
Spring oat	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
Spring triticale	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
Winter rye	110	9/1-10/15	1.5	50-70	2-4 in spring	10-18	51-65
Winter wheat	110-120	9/22-10/13 ⁴	1.5	50-70	2-4 in spring	10-18	50-65
Winter triticale	110-120	9/20-10/10	1.5	50-70	2-4 in spring	10-18	50-65
Annual/Italian ryegrass	20-25	4/1-5/1 or 8/1-9/7	¼ - ½	40-50 each cut	2.5-4.0 (spr. seeded) 3-6 (Fall+spring)	11-19	50-65
Forage sorghum	8-12	5/1-7/15	½ - 1	Variable ³	7-8	7-12	50-66
Sudangrass, sorghum-sudan	20-25	5/1-7/15	½ - 1	Variable ³	3.5-5.0	9-15	55-68
Pearl millet	15-20	5/1-7/15	½ - 1	Variable ³	3.0-4.5	8-17	56-67
Teff	4-5	5/15-7/15	¾ - ¼	50-60	2-4	13-16	55-65
Kale	3.5-4.0	4/15-6/7	¼ - ½	50-75	3-4	15-20	18-20
Rape	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
Swede	1.5-2.0	4/15-6/7	¼ - ½	50-75	3-4	15-20	18-20
Turnip, turnip hybrids	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

Revised 7/8/19

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES