

2024 Cover Crop Seeding Guidelines for Seed Corn Producers

Established by the Iowa Seed Association



Seeding Method	Winter Hardy Species	Non-Winter Hardy Species
Aerial application	45 lb/ac	60 lb/ac
Drilled/planted or Broadcast application with incorporation	45 lb/ac	45 lb/ac
Ground broadcast application without incorporation	45 lb/ac	60 lb/ac
Seeding deadline	October 31 – all zones	Zone 1- September 14
		Zone 2- September 21
		Zone 3- September 28

Approved Species: Winter Cereal Rye, Triticale, Winter Wheat, Winter Barley, Oats, Annual Ryegrass*, Oriental Mustard*, Radish*, Rapeseed*, Turnip*, Hairy Vetch* -- * please refer to USDA technical note for seeding rate

1. These are the minimum seeding rates required to receive cost-share. Seed must be a minimum of 85% pure live seed (PLS) to use these rates. For seed testing below 85% PLS, seeding rates may be adjusted (purity x % total germination).
2. These guidelines are modified from Iowa NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 38, revision August 2018.
3. If using a cover crop mix, consult with your local NRCS office or Project Coordinator Erica Lydolph to discuss rates. A commonly used mix is oats and radishes, with a seeding range of 32-50 #/ac oats and 3-6 #/ac radishes.
4. Consider using brassicas in your cover crop mix only if seeding by September 1.

IDALS Cover Crop Seeding Verification Form

Applicant Name:

Date:

Cover crop seeding rates should be based on the information on the other side of this document.

Acres Planted ¹	Cover Crop Species ²	Seeding Rate ³ (lbs/ac PLS*)	Seeding Date	Seeding Method ⁴

(Use a separate line on the form for each unit where a different cover crop mix, seeding date, or seeding method is used)

*Pure Live Seed

- ¹ - List only the number of acres on which the incentive payment is being made
- ² - List the individual name of all species used
- ³ - List the individual seeding rates for all species used
- ⁴ - List specific method used (i.e. aerial, broadcast, drilled, etc...)

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