



PIPER SUDANGRASS

Producers may know that cover crops benefit the soil and agricultural operations, but do they know the benefits of each species? Each month a different cover crop species will be highlighted to provide producers with information needed to successfully grow cover crops or alternative forages on their operation.

AT A GLANCE

- Warm-season annual grass
- Excellent forage for livestock: Often used for grazing, silage, or hay production
- Drought-tolerant crop, ideal for dry regions
- Aggressive root system improves soil structure
- Can be grown as a cover crop or forage crop

PLANTING DETAILS

- Seeds/lb: 40,000-43,000
- Planting depth: 1/2-1"
- Planting dates:
 - N of I-94: June 1-August 1
 - S of I-94: May 15- September 15
- Rate per acre: 25-38 lbs/acre
- Min germination temp: 65 F

ABOUT PIPER SUDANGRASS

- Adaptable to various soil types
- High biomass production for ground cover and soil improvement
- Known for its rapid growth and deep rooting ability

BENEFITS

Soil Health

Increases organic matter and reduces soil erosion. Suppresses weeds due to its dense growth and reduces compaction in soil with its deep root system.

Special Note

Prussic acid levels rise after a killing frost, so avoid grazing or cutting for 10-28 days after frost to prevent toxicity in livestock.



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