



SPRING OATS

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

- Winter-kill: Ideal for mixes that need winter termination.
- Versatile: Works well in a variety of crop rotations and soil conditions.
- Fungi host: Supports mycorrhizal fungi, promoting soil health.

PLANTING DETAILS

- Seeds/lb: 15,000-20,000
- Planting depth: 1/2-1 1/2"
- Planting dates:
 - N of I-94: April 15- September 15
 - S of I-94: April 1- October 1
- Rate per acre: 30-45 lbs/acre
- Min germination temp: 38 F

ABOUT SPRING OATS

- Spring oats are commonly used in cover crop systems due to their ability to establish quickly.
- They are often included in winter-kill mixes because they do not survive harsh winter conditions, making them easy to manage.

BENEFITS

Soil Health

By supporting mycorrhizal fungi, spring oats enhance soil structure and nutrient availability.

Low Maintenance

By supporting mycorrhizal fungi, spring oats enhance soil structure and nutrient availability.



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