



WINTER PEAS

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

- Ideal legume cover crop for corn
- Easy to terminate before planting
- Low Carbon-to-Nitrogen ratio for efficient nutrient cycling
- Grows well in cool climates, fixing nitrogen for the next crop

PLANTING DETAILS

- Seeds/lb: 3,500-4,500
- Planting depth: 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: 40 F
- Winter Hardiness Scale: 3/5

ABOUT WINTER PEAS

- Annual legume often used as a cover crop
- Planted in fall for overwintering and spring growth
- Usually terminated before planting the primary crop (like corn)

BENEFITS

Winter Hardy

Winter Peas are suitable for overwintering in cold climates, continuing to benefit the soil until spring.

Soil Health

Improves soil health by enhancing organic matter and soil structure. Suppresses weeds and reduces soil erosion during the off-season



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