

Purple Top Turnip

Key Features

Purple Top turnips are an affordable way to add diversity with a brassica to your cover crop blends. The bulbs formed at the soil surface work to condition top layers of soil while providing ground cover with above ground growth. The succulent above ground growth will break down quickly to release nutrients as a cover crop. The tops of Purple Top turnips can also serve as highly palatable and digestible forage in the fall.

Uses

Cover Crop
Forage

Planting Time

Summer-Fall

Establishment

Purple Top turnips can be broadcast or drilled from summer to early fall depending on the intended use and place in a rotation.

Management Keys

While most commonly used as a cover crop, there is an option to graze Purple Top turnips. It works best in a blend with additional species to create a balanced forage for grazing. In a stand that contains a high percentage of brassicas, it is recommended for livestock to be slightly full before being turned into that specific paddock.



Characteristics

Recovery after grazing	2
Cover Crop	4
Spring Planting	2
Late Summer Planting	5
Fall Planting	3

Scale 1-5 (1 = Poor, 5 + Excellent)

Seeding Rate

5-7 lbs/acre – Drilled
7-8 lbs/acre – Broadcast

Seeding Depth

No deeper than 1/4"

