

FORAGER COVER CROP

Key Features

Forager is a blend of oats, barley, lentils, peas, radish, turnip and forage brassica designed to be planted late summer into fall, then winter terminated. This eliminates the need for spring termination, requiring little or no tillage before planting the next cash crop. Great for a first-time cover crop. Offers tremendous diversity.

The oats in this blend offer slower release of nutrients while the radish will quickly release nutrients to the growing cash crop. Peas are excellent nitrogen-fixing plants and will build organic matter (OM) with the value that the sulfur brings forth.

Best if planted by early September preceding corn production. Makes excellent forage for late fall and early winter grazing.

Seeding Rate

40-90 lbs/acre aerial
35-80 lbs/acre broadcasting
25-45 lbs/acre drilling
Increase seeding rate for forage usage
Precision planting not recommended

Planting Time

Mid-July through Mid-September

Development and Management

Forager was developed for beginning cover crop producers who want to quickly encourage biological diversity in their soil. This cover crop is easily managed in the spring due to winterkill. Forager can produce a lot of biomass and will provide excellent late fall grazing. Prairie Creek Seed recommends increasing the seeding rate when Forager is used for fall forage and to suppress weed growth. Lower seeding rates may apply if Forager is intended more for diversity/soil health or erosion prevention.



Components

Oats
Spring Barley
Peas
Lentils
Radish
Turnips
Hybrid Forage Brassica

Usage Reference

Summer N Fixation	4
Fall N Scavenging	5
Rate of Nutrient Release	3
Wind Erosion	5
Water Erosion	5
Compaction Alleviation	5
Organic Matter Builder	4
Forage Quality	5
Winter Survivability	0

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

