

Winter Wheat

Triticum aestivum



Season type: Winter annual cereal

Uses

Compaction reduction	G	Attract beneficials	F
Residue persistence	VG	Nutrient scavenger	VG
Erosion control	VG	P & K scavenger	VG
Weed control	VG	Forage quality	VG
Nematode control	F		

E=Excellent; VG=Very Good; G=Good; F=Fair; P=Poor/None

Seeding rate: 60 to 120 lb/acre

Planting date: Early October to early November (early is best)

Production

Residue: 3,000 to 5,000 lb/acre

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Winter wheat is a popular cover crop choice. It is one of the easiest to grow, is usually relatively cheap, and does a good job of producing residue and protecting soil from erosion and weeds.

Surface residue

Wheat can provide good surface cover to suppress weeds, prevent erosion, and improve water conservation.

Wheat is a good choice to mix with crimson clover. The clover provides nitrogen and compliments wheat to cover the soil surface and suppress weeds.

Wheat roots spread quickly to scavenge any nutrients remaining available from the previous summer crop.

Wheat can be grown for seed production as well as for residue.



Adapted from *Managing Cover Crop Profitably 3rd Edition*



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