

Black Oat

Avena strigosa



Season types: Winter annual cereal

Uses

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

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

Seeding rate: 50 to 70 lb/acre for residue; 40 lb/acre for seed

Planting date: late September to October
(USDA Plant Hardiness Zones 8b–10a, only)

Production

Residue: 4,000 to 7,000 lb/acre

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Surface residue

A heavy residue of up to 7,000 pounds per acre can be produced in the southeastern USA.

Weed control

Black oat provides excellent weed control, particularly against broadleaf weeds. Allelopathic compounds released through the roots inhibit weed growth. Prolific tillering gives good ground coverage that suppresses weeds.



Beans in black oat residue.

Pest resistance

Black oat is resistant to rust and to root-knot nematodes. It breaks disease cycles for wheat and soybean.



SoilSaver black oat (*Avena strigosa* Schreb.) is a joint release between Auburn University and IAPAR (Institute of Agronomy of Paraná, Brazil).

Adapted from *Managing Cover Crop Profitably 3rd Edition*



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USDA-ARS-NSDL
411 S. Donahue Dr.
Auburn, AL 36832
334-887-8596

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