**Season type:** Winter annual

**Uses**

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<th>Compaction reduction</th>
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<td>Nematode control</td>
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</table>

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

Seeding rate: 5–10 lb/acre drilled; 8–14 lb/acre broadcast.

Planting date: September to early October. Soil temperatures between 45ºF and 85ºF. Plants should reach 6-8 leaves before a killing frost.

Production

Residue: 2,000 to 5,000 lb/acre.

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**Surface residue**

Brassicas grow rapidly in the autumn, producing large amounts of biomass, good for choking out weeds.

Rapeseeds prefer well-drained soils with pH between 5.5 and 8.0.

**Pest and weed control**

Biotoxins produced by brassicas when they decompose are toxic against many soilborne pathogens and pests, including insects, nematodes, and weeds. Canola has lower amounts than other rapeseeds.

Natural rapeseed oils are used as industrial lubricants. The term *Canola* (CANadian Oil Low Acid) is now used generally for all edible rapeseed oils, which have lower amounts of glucosinolates and erucic acid. Forage rape is used for animal grazing.

Some cultivars can survive winter temperatures down to 10ºF.

**Attract beneficials**

Canola flowers attract honeybees and hoverflies that are predators of aphids.

Brassicas can be grown in mixtures with winter grains.

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Adapted from *Managing Cover Crop Profitably 3rd Edition*

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