

Farm Seed Comparison Chart

Farm Seed	Sowing Season	Sow Per 1000 sq. ft.	Nitrogen Fixation	JSS Inoculant	Growth Rate	Bees/Beneficial In-sects	Primary Uses	Comments from Johnny's Farm Manager
Alfalfa, Summer	Early Spring or Late Summer	1/2 Lb.	Yes	9511	Fast	Yes	Nitrogen addition with long taproots.	Fast summer growth. Can be mowed. Winterkills. Easy incorporation after winter kill.
Barley	Spring or Summer	2 Lb.	No	No	Fast	Yes	Grain and erosion control.	Good straw and grain production. Underseed with Red Clover. Harvest grain, then till under clover first or second year.
Buckwheat	Spring or Summer	2-3 Lbs.	No	No	Fast	Yes	Smother crop, bee pasture, and grain.	My favorite crop! Fast growth, easy to till, likes warm weather, frost sensitive. Easy incorporation. Till at any stage.
Clover, Crimson	Anytime	2/3 Lb.	Yes	9511	Medium	Yes	Underseeding, forage, and smother crop.	Best for underseeding. Cold tolerant. Winterkills in Northern climates. Till in spring.
Clover, Mammoth Red	Anytime	1/2 Lb.	Yes	9511	Fast	No	Underseeding and does well in poor soil.	Best clover for poor soils. Best moldboard plowed. Mow then till.
Clover, Sweet	Spring or Summer	1/2 Lb.	Yes	9511	Medium	2nd year	Bee pasture with long taproots that break up soil.	Extensive root system, can be mowed high for better root growth. Best moldboard plowed. Mow then till.
Clover, New Zealand White	Spring or Summer	1/4 Lb.	Yes	9511	Slow	2nd year	Pasture and underseeding.	Underseed vegetables like brassicas for "living mulch". Mow then till.
Cowpeas	Mid spring to mid summer	2 Lbs.	Yes	No	Fast	No	Quick summer, green manure, and nitrogen.	Frost sensitive, plant only once soil is warm. Easy incorporation. Will not regrow after mowing.
Mangels	Spring through early Summer	1/4 Lbs.	No	No	78 Days	No	Animal feed.	Can be stored near freezing temps (root cellar) and fed throughout the winter. Planting too thickly causes small roots.
Manure Mix, Fall Green	Early Spring thru Late Summer	1 1/2 Lb.	Yes	9321	Medium	No	Nitrogen fixation and cool season cover crop.	The best option for fall. Easy incorporation in early spring.
Manure Mix, Spring Green	Spring	5 Lb.	Yes	9321	Medium	No	Smother crop and organic matter.	Plant early for best growth. Medium incorporation if mowed first.
Mustards	Spring or Summer	3-4 Oz.	No	No	Fast	Yes	Weed suppression. Nematode and soil fungi control.	Easy incorporation, mow and till immediately
Oats	Spring or Summer	4 Lb.	No	No	Medium	No	Quick cover, grain, and nurse crop.	Winterkills, easy to till under. Easy incorporation after winter kill. Cold tolerant.
Oats, Hulless	Spring	3 Lb.	No	No	Medium	No	Grain	Specifically for grain production. Winterkills. Easy to till under.
Peas, Field	Spring or Early Fall	5 Lb.	Yes	9321	Fast	No	Dry peas, fast growing cover crop and nitrogen addition.	Easy incorporation after mowing or winter kill. Smother crop. Quick growth in cool weather.
Radish, Oilseed	Fall	1 Lb.	No	No	Fast	No	Cold tolerant and cover.	Easy incorporation. Dies over winter. Good cover crop following potatoes.
Rye, Winter	Fall	4 Lb.	No	No	Medium	No	Cover crop and grain.	Aggressive fall growth. Till in early spring. Last cover crop of the growing season.
Ryegrass	Anytime	1 Lb.	No	No	Fast	No	Fast cover and companion with oats and rye.	Easy incorporation after winter kill. Easy to till under. Fast lawn cover.
Soybeans	Spring or Summer	4 Lb.	Yes	9323	Fast	No	Smother crop and nitrogen addition.	Mow then till under. Deer favorite. Trap crop for deer.
Sudangrass	Early Summer	1 Lb.	No	No	Fast	No	Biomass production.	Easy to turn under in spring. Frost sensitive.
Sunflower	Spring	2,000 Seeds	No	No	Medium	Few	Birdseed and edible seed.	Planted in rows 18-36" apart.
Vetch, Chickling	Early Spring to Early Summer	2 Lb.	Yes	9321	Medium	No	Nitrogen addition and forage.	Easy to turn under in spring. Will not compete with weeds.
Vetch, Hairy	Anytime	1 Lb.	Yes	9321	Slow	2nd year	Bee pasture, nitrogen addition, and forage.	Best moldboard plowed. Mow, then till. Vigorous spring growth.
Wheat, Spring	Spring	4 Lb.	No	No	Fast	No	Grain and ornamental glumes.	Underseed with Red Clover. Mow then till the following spring. Grow your own grain and make flour.