

FARM SEED PLANTING GUIDE

Item	Type	Best Uses ¹	Planting Time ²	Optimum pH	Seeding Rate ³ /1000 sq ft	Seeding Rate ³ /acre	Nitrogen Fixation ⁴	Organic Matter ⁵
8001	Alfalfa, all types	hay, pasture, N-fix, OM, bees	8+ weeks before FF	6.5-7.0	1/2#	15-25#	high	medium
8004	B&B Mix	WC, OM	Early Summer	6.0-7.5	2#	75#	low	high
8006ff	Barley	WC, food, SC-N, feed	Spring, soil at least 55°	6.0-7.5	3-4#	100-180#	—	medium
8011	Bell Bean	N-fix, OM, food, feed	Spring or Fall	6.0-7.0	5#	150-200#	high	medium
8013	BMR Sorghum/Sudangrass	pasture, OM, WC, SC-N, EC	Soil over 60°	6.0-7.5	2#	40-80#	—	high
8019	Buckwheat, common	food, bees WC, SC-P	80-90 days before FF LF to 4 weeks before FF	6.0-6.5	1#	40-60#	—	low
8020	Camelina	bees, SC, food, feed	2 wks before to 2 wks after FF	5.6-6.5	1/4#	5-10#	—	low
8022	Chicory, Forage	pasture	Soil over 55°	5.5-7.5	1/4#	10#	—	low
8025	Clover, Crimson	pasture, hay, N-fix, WC, bees	Soil over 65°	5.0-8.0	1-2#	25-50#	high	medium
8028ff	Clover, Red, all types	N-fix, hay, pasture, OM, bees	Soil over 50°	6.0-7.5	1/2#	15-20#	medium	medium
8037ff	Clover, White, all types	pasture, N-fix, OM, lawn, EC, bees	Late Winter to FF	6.5-7.5	1/4-1/2#	4-15#	medium	medium
8046	Clover, Yellow Sweet	N-fix, OM, bees	Spring & Summer	6.0-8.0	1/2#	15-20#	high	medium
8060	Cover Crop Cocktail	OM, SC, WC	MS to FF	5.5-7.5	1-2#	50-75#	medium	high
8061	CR Lawn Mix	lawn, orchard groundcover	LF to MS	6.0-7.0	3-4#	100-150#	low	medium
8062	Magic Carpet Mix	OM, WC, bees, SC, EC	Early to Mid-Spring	6.0-7.0	1/2#	25#	medium	medium
8064	Millet, Japanese	WC, OM, SC, silage, hay, pasture	2 wks before LF, to MS	5.5-6.0	1#	40-60#	—	high
8070	Mustard	PC, SC	Spring to FF	5.5-8.3	1#	15-25#	—	low
8076ff	Oats, all types	WC, OM, straw, feed	Soil over 50°, Spring to FF	5.0-6.5	3-4#	100-150#	—	high
8088	Orchard Grass	pasture, hay	Late Winter to Late Summer	5.8-7.5	1#	20-40#	—	high
8094	Pasture Mix	pasture	Mid-Spring to Late Summer	6.0-7.0	1#	40-50#	low	high
8097	Pea, Field/Forage	pasture, silage, N-fix, WC	Spring, soil over 45°	6.0-7.0	5#	100-200#	medium	low
8103	PVO Mix	OM, N-fix, WC	Mid-Spring to Late Summer	6.0-7.0	5#	150-200#	medium	medium
8105	Radish, Daikon	SC, EC	Late Summer to FF	6.0-7.5	1/2#	5-15#	—	low
8109	Rye, Winter	OM, WC, SC, food, EC	2 wks before to 2 wks after FF	5.0-7.0	3-5#	100-200#	—	high
8112	Rye/Vetch Mix	N-fix, OM, WC, EC	2 wks before FF to FF	6.0-7.0	2-3#	80-100#	low	high
8121	Ryegrass, Annual	OM, WC, EC, SC-N	Soil over 50°	6.0-7.0	1-2#	25-35#	—	high
8124	Ryegrass, Perennial	pasture, WC, OM, EC, SC-N	2 weeks before LF, to FF	5.2-8.0	1-2#	30-60#	—	high
8133	Sunn Hemp	OM, N-fix, PC	Soil over 60°, to Late Summer	5.0-7.5	1-2#	30-50#	medium	medium
8136	Timothy	hay, pasture	Mid-Spring to Late Summer	5.5-7.0	1/2#	12-15#	—	high
8139	Vetch, Hairy	N-fix	Mid-Spring to FF	6.0-7.0	1#	25-40#	medium	low
8143	Wheat, Spring	OM, food	Soil over 50°	6.0-7.0	3-4#	100-125#	—	medium
8149ff	Wheat, Winter	OM, WC, food, feed	2 wks before FF to FF	6.0-7.0	3-4#	100-150#	—	medium



Wheat stacks.

Chart Key: ff=and following

¹Best Uses:

- bees:** provides bee forage for honey production
- feed:** produces a grain or bean suitable for animal consumption
- food:** produces a grain or bean suitable for human consumption
- EC:** erosion control—roots hold soil well
- hay:** maintains nutritional quality when dried
- lawn:** suitable for heavy traffic areas, withstands mowing
- N-fix:** green manure fixes nitrogen, available to subsequent crops when tilled into soil
- OM:** organic matter—soil builder green manure, produces fibrous biomass and improves soil structure
- pasture:** superior nutrition and yield, withstands grazing
- PC:** pest control—reduces insect, disease, or nematode pressure
- SC:** scavenger crop—quickly takes up nutrients from soil, preventing their loss to erosion or leaching. **N:** nitrogen, **P:** phosphorus
- WC:** weed control—physically out-competes or chemically inhibits weeds

²Planting Time:

- LF** = Last Frost in spring
- FF** = First Frost in autumn
- MS** = Midsummer

³Seeding rates are based on drilled seed in organically managed fields. Seeding rates vary depending on crop use, timeliness of planting, method of seeding, weed pressure, soil conditions, seed size, and whether the crop is planted alone or in a mix.

- If you need help figuring out what seeding rate to use, please give us a call.
- For most seed, use the smaller amount in mixes and the larger amount solo.
- For broadcasting, increase 20–25%.
- For use in precision planters, decrease 10–50%.
- For late planting, increase 20–50%.
- For forage or weed control uses, increase 30–50%.

⁴**Nitrogen Fixation:** Rhizobial bacteria form symbiotic relationships specifically with the roots of leguminous crops to convert atmospheric nitrogen (which is unavailable to plants) to ammonia and nitrates (which are available to plants). Legumes can often furnish nearly all of their own nitrogen needs this way—exactly how much depends on the species, the soil structure, and weather conditions. If the crop is removed from the field, the fixed nitrogen is removed as well, with little or no residual added nitrogen remaining in the soil; however, if the crop is turned in and incorporated into the soil, the fixed nitrogen is added to the soil and is available in slow-release form to the following crop. Legume species have varying capacity to fix atmospheric nitrogen.

⁵**Organic Matter, or Biomass:** These ratings reflect relative quantities of fibrous biomass. Succulent biomass makes a rapid contribution to available soil nutrients but does not contribute to the long-term carbon content of the soil. Fibrous biomass helps build humus, which improves soil texture and increases nutrient-holding capacity.

Our costs fluctuate with the weather, transportation costs and availability. We will make every effort to honor the prices published in the catalog, but if we have to purchase additional inventory we will adjust prices accordingly. See our website for the most current prices or call 207-426-9900 if you have questions.

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Where variety is not stated, plant characteristics may vary because we purchase seed from multiple suppliers based on price and availability.