

SEEDING WINDOWS FOR COVER CROPS IN INDIANA

NOTE: Northern and southern Indiana seeding dates for the tables below are divided on a general line along US 36 from Illinois to Indianapolis and US 40 from Indianapolis to Ohio.

Best window of opportunity and greatest benefit for various cropping scenarios

IN After harvest
A/I Aerial or interseed

A/I after corn
A/I after soybeans
 after seed corn
 after silage corn
 after vegetable crops

after wheat
 after early veg crops

Plant Species	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec-Feb.
Barley, Winter						N	IN	IN	IN	R
Buckwheat			S	IN	IN	IN	IN	R		
Clover, Balansa	R-2	IN	IN				IN	IN	IN	
Clover, Berseem				IN	IN	IN	IN	S		
Clover, Crimson			S	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN	R	
Clover, Red	R-2	S	IN	IN	IN					F-2
Collards		R	S	IN	IN	IN	M	M	M	R
Cowpea/Soybeans			S	IN	IN	IN	M	3		
Flax		R	IN	IN			M	IN	IN	
Kale		R	S	IN	IN	IN	IN	M	M	M
Millet, Japanese/Pearl			S	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN	3	
Oats, (Spring & Black)	R-2	S	IN	IN	IN	IN	M	M	M	M
Pea, (Field/Spring/Winter)	R-2	S	IN	IN	N			N	IN	IN
Phacelia		R	IN				M	IN	IN	IN
Radish, Oil Seed							M	IN	IN	R
Rapeseed							M	IN	IN	IN
Rye, Winter Cereal	R-2							N	IN	IN
Ryegrass, Annual	R-2	S	IN	IN	IN	N		N	IN	IN
Sorghum-Sudangrass /Sudangrass /Milo				IN	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN-3	S-3
Soybean, (Forage & Field)			S	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN-3	S-3
Sunflowers			S	IN	IN	IN	IN	IN	S	
Sunn Hemp			S	IN	IN	IN	IN	S		
Teff (Coated Seed)			S	IN	IN	IN	M	M	S-3	
Triticale, Winter								N	IN	IN
Turnips/Pasja	S-4	IN-4	IN-4				M	IN	IN	IN
Vetch, Hairy		S	IN				IN	IN	IN	IN
Wheat, (Winter & Spelt)							R-1	R-1	R-1	R-1

¹ Risk for Hessian Fly-Free Dates Recommended

² Dormant/Frost/Early seeding from December thru March. Increase seeding rates by 25%.

³ Expect lower biomass and production

⁴ Bolting risk

Legend

IN	Suitable seeding dates for all of Indiana
S	Additional suitable seeding dates for Southern IN (~South of I-70)
N	Additional suitable seeding dates for north Northern IN (~North of I-70)
R	Riskier Establishment (Season/Weather/Variety Dependent)
F	Frost/Dormant Seeding
IN-3	Dwindling quantity

M If sufficient moisture

Seeding window is part of the IN NRCS Cover Crop Seeding Calculator which can be found on the Field Office Tech Guide (FOTG) and downloaded [HERE](#)

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