

MARION COUNTY SWCD FAVORITE COVER CROP MIXES AND STRATEGIES

Species Common Name	Type	Winter Survival	Optimum Depth (inches)	Surface Broadcast Potential	Rate (Ounces / 100 Sq. Ft.)
OATS			Fall Planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winterkill > Strip Furrow > Early Spring Seeded Vegetables 		
Oats	Nonlegumes	Seldom	½-1	+	4.0
CEREAL RYE			Fall Planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Crimp > Bush Beans • Spring Incorporation when 6" – 8" tall > Wait 20 days > Direct Seed 		
Rye, Winter Cereal	Nonlegumes	Expected	¾-1½	+	3.7
HAIRY VETCH AND OATS			Fall Planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Chop/Drop > Strip Furrow > May Direct Seed • Spring Chop/Drop > May Transplants 		
Vetch, Hairy	Legumes	Expected	½-1½	+	1.1
Oats	Nonlegumes	Seldom	½-1	+	1.0
HAIRY VETCH AND CEREAL RYE			Fall Planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Chop/Drop or Crimp > May Transplants • Spring Crimp > Strip Furrow or Make Spaces > May Direct Seeding • Direct seeding of some crops can be difficult with cereal rye biomass 		
Vetch, Hairy	Legumes	Expected	½-1½	+	1.0
Rye, Winter Cereal	Nonlegumes	Expected	¾-1½	+	0.9
CRIMSON CLOVER AND OATS			Fall Planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Chop/Drop > Light Incorporation > May Direct Seed • Spring Chop/Drop > Supplemental Mulch > May Transplants 		
Clover, Crimson	Legumes	Expected	¼-½	+	0.7
Oats	Nonlegumes	Seldom	½-1	+	1.0
SORGHUM-SUDANGRASS			Summer Planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Vegetables > Sorghum-sudangrass > Late Vegetables or Fall Cover Crop 		
Sorghum-sudangrass	Nonlegumes	Never	½-1½	-	3.0

EXAMPLE ROTATIONS

Fall Cereal Rye Spring (Crimp) Bush Beans Fall Oats + Hairy Vetch Spring (Chop/Drop + Strip Furrow) Sweet Corn	Fall Cereal Rye + Hairy Vetch Spring (Chop/Drop) Peppers Fall Oats Spring Lettuce + Spinach + Peas	Mid-Fall Oats + Radishes (Winterkill) Late Fall Strip Till or No-till Direct Plant) Garlic Spring Supplemental mulch Summer Sorghum-sudangrass
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Results may vary with soils, climate, and weed pressure. Contact your local USDA-NRCS or SWCD to learn more.