

## Marion County SWCD Demonstration Garden Rotations - Favorites

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
A6	Winterkill Cover Crop			Spinach / Beets		Summer Low Biomass		Turnips / Pac Choi / Lettuce		High Biomass Cover Crop		
A5	Winterkill Cover Crop			Onions				Carrots		High Biomass Cover Crop		
A4	Winterkill Cover Crop			Onions				Beets		High Biomass Cover Crop		
A3	Winterkill Cover Crop		Lettuce			Summer High Biomass				High Biomass Cover Crop		
A2	Winterkill Cover Crop		Snap Peas			Summer High Biomass				Winterkill Cover Crop		
A1	Garlic							Summer Cover Crop				
B6	Legume Cover Crop				Sweet Corn					High Biomass Cover Crop		
B5	Legume Cover Crop			Onions				Carrots		High Biomass Cover Crop		
B4	Legume Cover Crop			Kale, Pac Choi, Greens Mix		Summer Low Biomass		Spinach		High Biomass Cover Crop		
B3	Legume Cover Crop					Squash			Winterkill Cover Crop		Garlic	
B2												
B1												
C6								Compost Area				
C5	High Biomass Cover Crop					Sweet Potatoes				Legume Cover Crop		
C4	High Biomass Cover Crop					Tomatoes / Peppers				Legume Cover Crop		
C3	High Biomass Cover Crop					Squash		Summer High Biomass Cover Crop				
C2	High Biomass Cover Crop					Squash			Winterkill Cover Crop			
C1	Mulch			Spring High Biomass Cover Crop			Squash		Winterkill Cover Crop			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December

Key
Vegetables
Cover Crop
Mulch or Winterkilled
Tarp
Solarization
Wildlife Planting
Compost Area

Cover Crop Strategies	Species and Mix Examples
Winterkill	Oats, Field Peas, Radish, Flax, Phacelia
Legume	Hairy Vetch, Crimson Clover plus Oats
High Biomass	Cereal Rye Based Mix
Spring High Biomass	Oats, Field Peas, Flax, Phacelia
Summer Low Biomass	Buckwheat
Summer High Biomass	Sorghum Sudangrass, Sunn Hemp
Tarp duration requirements to terminate cover crops, crops, and weeds vary with species, temperature, and plant growth stage.	

Reference Documents
<a href="#">Indiana Vegetable Planting Calendar, Purdue Extension HO-196-W</a>
<a href="#">Home Gardener's Guide, Purdue Extension HO-32-W</a>
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Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Marion County SWCD Demonstration Garden Crop Rotation

[marionswcd.org/soilhealth/](http://marionswcd.org/soilhealth/)

Kevin Allison, Soil Health Specialist

This work is supported through the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, North Central SARE, and Clean Water Indiana. The USDA-NRCS is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. This material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under agreement number 2024-38640-42989 through the North Central Region SARE program under project number ENC24-233. USDA is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## Marion County SWCD Demonstration Garden Crop Plan 2026

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
A6	High Biomass Cover Crop					Squash		Cover Crop TBD					
A5	High Biomass Cover Crop					Tomatoes / Peppers					Cover Crop TBD		
A4	High Biomass Cover Crop					Cut	Summer High Biomass Cover Crop		Cover Crop TBD				
A3	High Biomass Cover Crop					Sweet Potatoes					Cover Crop TBD		
A2	High Biomass Cover Crop					Sweet Potatoes					Legume	> Onion 2027	
A1	High Biomass Cover Crop					Sweet Potatoes					Legume	> Onion 2027	
B6	Legume Cover Crop		Onions		Carrots			High Biomass Cover Crop					
B5	Legume Cover Crop		Onions			Carrots			High Biomass Cover Crop				
B4	High Biomass Cover Crop		Squash		Summer Lo		Spinach		High Biomass Cover Crop				
B3	High Biomass Cover Crop				Summer Cover Crop		Fall Brassicas		High Biomass Cover Crop				
B2	Wildlife and Native Planting												
B1	for Beneficial Insects and Pollinators												
C6	Compost Area												
C5	Legume Cover Crop		Spinach		Summer Cover Crop		Winterkill CC		Garlic				
C4	Legume Cover Crop		Beets / Lettuce			Summer Cover Crop		Winterkill CC		Garlic			
C3	Garlic					Summer Cover Crop			Cover Crop TBD				
C2	Garlic					Summer Cover Crop			Cover Crop TBD				
C1	High Biomass Cover Crop				Cut	Beets		Cover Crop TBD					
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	

Key
Vegetables
Cover Crop
Mulch or Winterkilled
Tarp
Solarization
Wildlife Planting
Compost Area

Cover Crop Strategies	Species and Mix Examples
Winterkill	Oats, Field Peas, Radish, Flax, Phacelia
Legume	Hairy Vetch, Crimson Clover plus Oats
High Biomass	Cereal Rye Based Mix
Spring High Biomass	Oats, Field Peas, Flax, Phacelia
Summer Low Biomass	Buckwheat
Summer High Biomass	Sorghum Sudangrass, Sunn Hemp
Tarp duration requirements to terminate cover crops, crops, and weeds vary with species, temperature, and plant growth stage.	

Reference Documents
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## Marion County SWCD Demonstration Garden Crop Plan 2025

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
A6	Winterkill Cover Crop			Spinach / Beets		Summer High Biomass	Turnips / Pac Choi / Lettuce			High Biomass Cover Crop			
A5	Winterkill Cover Crop			Carrots			Low Biomass	Spinach / Beets			High Biomass Cover Crop		
A4	Winterkill Cover Crop			Onions			H	Carrots			High Biomass Cover Crop		
A3	Winterkill Cover Crop			Onions			H	Carrots			High Biomass Cover Crop		
A2	Garlic						H	Summer High Biomass		High Biomass Cover Crop			
A1	High Biomass Cover Crop					Squash	Summer High Biomass		High Biomass Cover Crop				
B6	Legume Cover Crop						Beets			Legume Cover Crop			
B5	Legume Cover Crop						Beets			Legume Cover Crop			
B4	High Biomass Cover Crop						Sweet Potatoes			High Biomass			
B3	High Biomass Cover Crop						Sweet Potatoes			High Biomass			
B2	Wildlife and Native Planting												
B1	for Beneficial Insects and Pollinators												
C6	Compost Area												
C5	High Biomass Cover Crop			Tomatoes / Peppers						Legume Cover Crop			
C4	Legume Cover Crop			Kale, Turnips, Pac Choi			Buckwheat (1/2)		Cut and Mulch		Legume Cover Crop		
C3	Mulch			Snap Peas / Flowers					Summer High Biomass			Crimson Clover (broadcast > weedwhack) / Garlic	
C2	Mulch			Spring High Biomass Cover Crop					Summer HB		Crimson Clover (weedwhack > seeder) / Garlic		
C1	High Biomass Cover Crop						Melons			High Biomass Cover Crop 9/14 (Rye, CC, Flax, Phacelia)			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	

Key
Vegetables
Cover Crop
Mulch or Winterkilled
Tarp
Solarization
Wildlife Planting
Compost Area

Cover Crop Strategies	Species and Mix Examples
Winterkill	Oats, Field Peas, Radish, Flax, Phacelia
Legume	Hairy Vetch, Crimson Clover plus Oats
High Biomass	Cereal Rye Based Mix
Spring High Biomass	Oats, Field Peas, Flax, Phacelia
Summer Low Biomass	Buckwheat
Summer High Biomass	Sorghum Sudangrass, Sunn Hemp
Tarp duration requirements to terminate cover crops, crops, and weeds vary with species, temperature, and plant growth stage.	

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## Marion County SWCD Demonstration Garden Crop Plan 2024

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
A6	Winterkill Cover Crop			Snap Peas / Lettuce			Summer High Biomass		Winterkill Cover Crop			
A5	Winterkill Cover Crop		Spring High Biomass Cover Crop				Winter squash		Winterkill Cover Crop			
A4	High Biomass Cover Crop					Watermelon			Winterkill Cover Crop			
A3	High Biomass Cover Crop					Squash			Winterkill Cover Crop			
A2	High Biomass Cover Crop				Tomato, Pepper				Winterkill Cover Crop (IS)		Garlic	
A1	Winterkill Cover Crop		Spinach		x2		Summer High Biomass		High Biomass Cover Crop			
B6	High Biomass Cover Crop					Sweet Potatoes				Legume Cover Crop		
B5	High Biomass Cover Crop					Sweet Potatoes				Legume Cover Crop		
B4	Legume Cover Crop					Sweet Corn				High Biomass Cover Crop		
B3	Legume Cover Crop					Sweet Corn				High Biomass Cover Crop		
B2	Wildlife and Native Planting											
B1	for Beneficial Insects and Pollinators											
C6	Compost Area											
C5	Winterkill Cover Crop			Onions				Beets		High Biomass Cover Crop		
C4			> Garlic				Summer Low		Legume Cover Crop			
C3	Legume Cover Crop			Beets			Summer Low		Carrots		Mulch	
C2	Legume Cover Crop			Carrots			Summer Low		Carrots		Mulch	
C1	Legume Cover Crop			Kale, Pac Choi, Greens Mix			Summer Low Biomass		Spinach		High Biomass Cover Crop	
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Key
Vegetables
Cover Crop
Mulch or Winterkilled
Tarp
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Wildlife Planting
Compost Area

Cover Crop Strategies	Species and Mix Examples
Winterkill	Oats, Field Peas, Radish, Flax, Phacelia
Legume	Hairy Vetch, Crimson Clover plus Oats
High Biomass	Cereal Rye Based Mix
Spring High Biomass	Oats, Field Peas, Flax, Phacelia
Summer Low Biomass	Buckwheat
Summer High Biomass	Sorghum Sudangrass, Sunn Hemp
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## Marion County SWCD Demonstration Garden Crop Plan 2023

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
A6	High Biomass Cover Crop			Winter Squash		High Biomass Summer / Legumes						
A5	Winterkill Cover Crop		Onion			High Biomass Summer Cover Crop		High Biomass Cover Crop				
A4	> Garlic						Buckwheat		Spinach		High Biomass 4" Leaf Mulch	
A3	Legume Cover Crop				Sweet Corn		High Biomass Cover Crop		High Biomass Cover Crop			
A2	Legume Cover Crop				Sweet Corn		High Biomass Cover Crop		High Biomass Cover Crop			
A1	Legume Cover Crop			Kale / Collards / Arugala / Pac Choi			Buckwheat		Winterkill Cover Crop			
B6	High Biomass Cover Crop				Watermelon				High Biomass Cover Crop			
B5	Winterkill Cover Crop			Spinach / Beets			Carrots		High Biomass Cover Crop			
B4	Winterkill Cover Crop			Carrots			Beets		Legume Cover Crop			
B3	High Biomass Cover Crop			Tomato / Pepper			Legume Cover Crop					
B2	Wildlife and Native Planting											
B1	for Beneficial Insects and Pollinators											
C6	Compost Area											
C5	High Biomass Cover Crop				Squash, Beans				Winterkill Cover Crop			
C4	High Biomass Cover Crop			Squash, Beans			Winterkill Cover Crop		Garlic			
C3	Winterkill Cover Crop		Sugar Snap Peas			Sweet Potatoes			Legume Cover Crop			
C2	High Biomass Cover Crop				Sweet Potatoes		Legume Cover Crop					
C1	High Biomass Cover Crop				Sweet Potatoes		Legume Cover Crop					
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Key
Vegetables
Cover Crop
Mulch or Winterkilled
Tarp
Solarization
Wildlife Planting
Compost Area

Cover Crop Strategies	Species and Mix Examples
Winterkill	Oats, Field Peas, Radish, Flax, Phacelia
Legume	Hairy Vetch, Crimson Clover plus Oats
High Biomass	Cereal Rye Based Mix
Spring High Biomass	Oats, Field Peas, Flax, Phacelia
Summer Low Biomass	Buckwheat
Summer High Biomass	Sorghum Sudangrass, Sunn Hemp
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