



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Soil Quality Enhancement Activity – KS-SQL04 Use of Cover Crop Mixes

Kansas Criteria for National Soil Quality Enhancement Activity – SQL04

Select two or more plant species from the following list to design the cover crop mix:

Cover Crops <u>1/ 2/</u>	Cover Crop Seeding Rates Drilled <u>3/</u>
Barley (WA)	85 lbs/ac
Oats (A)	100 lbs/ac
Rye (WA)	85 lbs/ac
Sorghum-sudangrass hybrids (A)	35 lbs/ac
Triticale (WA)	90 lbs/ac
Wheat (WA)	90 lbs/ac
Mustards (WA)	8 lbs/ac
Annual ryegrass (WA)	15 lbs/ac
Buckwheat (A)	60 lbs/ac
Cowpeas (A)	50 lbs/ac
Crimson clover (WA)	17 lbs/ac
Hairy vetch (WA)	17 lbs/ac
Alsike clover (B)	8 lbs/ac
Red clover (B)	8 lbs/ac
White clover (P)	6 lbs/ac
Sweetclovers (B)	10 lbs/ac
Subterranean clover (WA)	15 lbs/ac
Woollypod vetch (A)	20 lbs/ac
Forage radish (WA)	10 lbs/ac
Sunn hemp (A)	30 lbs/ac
Lespedeza (WA)	35 lbs/ac
Austrian winter pea (WA)	30 lbs/ac
Chick peas (WA)	100 lbs/ac
Mung bean (A)	15 lbs/ac
Oil seed radish (WA)	10 lbs/ac
Lentils (WA)	15 lbs/ac
Ethiopian cabbage (WA)	5 lbs/ac
Dwarf essex rape (WA)	7 lbs/ac
Canola (WA)	2 lbs/ac
Pearl millet (A)	15 lbs/ac
Sunflower (A)	4 lbs/ac
Soybean (A)	45 lbs/ac

Refer to Conservation Practice Standard 340, Cover Crop, when selecting the cover crop species so the performance and roles are compatible. Use the following example to determine the actual amounts of each cover crop species contained within the mix to be seeded on a per acre basis.

Cover Crops <u>1/</u> <u>2/</u>	Cover Crop Seeding Rates Drilled <u>3/</u>	Per cent of Cover Crop Mix	Cover Crop Mix
Sorghum-sudangrass hybrids (A)	35 lbs/ac	40%	14 lb/ac
Cowpeas (A)	50 lbs/ac	30%	15 lbs/ac
Pearl millet (A)	15 lbs/ac	30%	4.5 lbs/ac
		Total -100%	33.5 lbs/ac

1/ Cover crops to be established early enough in growing season to provide adequate cover. Winter annual (WA) grasses will be seeded by October 15. Annual (A) grasses, legumes, and forbs will be seeded by July 31. Winter annual (WA), biennial (B), and perennial (P) legumes and forbs will be seeded no later than September 25.

2/ Planted legumes must be inoculated for adequate nitrogen fixation. Follow the recommendations of seed dealers.

3/ Increase the seeding rate by at least 25 percent if broadcasting the seed in lieu of planting with a drill. Small-seeded species (<20 pounds per acre) will be increased by 50 percent when seeded by broadcast methods.