

Guidance on using the Iowa Native Prairie Guide – Increasing forb diversity in native grass-dominated stands

Consider Interseeding options if:

1. If < 30% of native stand is made up of introduced species
and
2. desirable forbs are present
and
3. you can mow often
 - mowing every two weeks for 2 years may be needed to reduce competition from the tall grasses, to ensure the new seedlings have space to develop
 - need to reduce the duff layer before interseeding by prescribed fire, haying or grazing. Mowing the fall before can work if drilling.

If > than 30% of native stand is made up of introduced species go to [Termination Options](#).

- All termination options require full seed mixes.

Termination options

If > 50% of native stand is made up of introduced species go to [Terminate Option 1 – Fall & Spring Spray](#)

- Our first concern is eradication introduce species present before we complete a new seeding.
- Use Iowa Native Prairie Guide - [Planting Native Prairie into Cool Season Sod](#)

If <50% of native stand is made up of introduced species go to [Terminate Option 2 – Fall Spray & Seed](#)

- a fall spray will do a good job diminishing the introduced species
- will allow for a dormant planting which is favorable to establishing forbs

If <30% of native stand is made up of introduced species and desirable forbs are present [Terminate Option 3 – Spring Herbicide Only](#) can be considered.

- Has potential to be advantageous to releasing the existing forbs. Spring glyphosate will set back the perennial grasses harder than the perennial forbs.
- If no fall work was completed can allow a seeding to take place without losing a growing season
- Disadvantage: some forb seeds won't germinate in this first growing season without going through the cold-moist stratification.

When producer is opting for not using pesticides, go to [Organic Transition Options](#)

- Moldboard plowing must be completed with follow-up tillage to prepare the seedbed.