

# 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**

**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

<sup>1/</sup> Risk for Hessian Fly-Free Dates Recommended  
<sup>2/</sup> Dormant/Frost/Early seeding from December thru March. Increase seeding rates by 25%.  
<sup>3/</sup> Expect lower biomass and production  
<sup>4/</sup> Bolting risk

**Legend**

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

This 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](#)

The cover crop seeding calculator is regularly reviewed and updated to ensure the most timely relevant information is used. This includes cover crop seeding windows. If this document is more than one year old, please click the link above to view the most current version



The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.