ORGANIC TRANSITION OPTIONS
Options for Increasing forb diversity in native grass-dominated stands

Steps

1. Plow introduced plant community, August-October.
2. Use Disk/Soil finisher twice in early spring.
   • Complete necessary tillage to create a good seedbed. It should be relatively smooth to drive over.
3. Seed 3 bushels of oats/acre.
4. Evaluate the seeding area in September.
   • Check if the introduced plant community is coming back or if thistles and other potential problem weeds are present.
5. Complete tillage before seeding.
6. Roll area to make a firm seedbed; a footprint should not be < than ½” deep.
7. Complete a dormant seeding.
8. If a spring seeding is completed, add a bushel of oats to the seed mix for soil erosion control.
9. Mow
   • Mow 1st at 3-4” in height when annual weeds reach knee high.
   • Increase the mower height to 5-6” after the first mowing.
   • Additional mowings in the 2nd year will aide in the establishment of the seedlings.

Note: A spring seeding could be completed after the spring disking if seedbed conditions are good.

Using a chisel plow to begin to break up the soil to prepare for seeding oats.