



## WINTER BARLEY

Producers may know that cover crops benefit the soil and agricultural operations, but do they know the benefits of each species? Each month a different cover crop species will be highlighted to provide producers with information needed to successfully grow cover crops or alternative forages on their operation.

### AT A GLANCE

- Winter barley is a hardy cover crop planted in the fall.
- It grows quickly and establishes well before winter.
- Reclaims eroded land and improves soil health.

### PLANTING DETAILS

- Seeds/lb: 13,000-15,000
- Planting depth: 3/4- 1 1/2"
- Planting dates:
  - N of I-94: July 15- October 15
  - S of I-94: July 15- November 1
- Rate per acre: 50-75 lbs/acre
- Min germination temp: 38 F
- Winter Hardiness Scale: 4/5

### ABOUT WINTER BARLEY

- Winter barley is a cereal grain that survives winter conditions.
- It is known for its ability to provide high-quality forage and act as a host for mycorrhizal fungi.
- It complements most cover crop mixes, enhancing overall soil benefits.

### BENEFITS

#### Low Maintenance

Barley can smother weeds, which can reduce the need for herbicides.

Because barley breaks down quickly, fields that were planted with barley require less tillage, which can help preserve soil structure.

#### Soil Health

Barley can help reduce soil erosion and protect topsoil during drought.



**CENTRA SOTA COOPERATIVE**

info@centrasota.com

800.682.1464

www.centrasota.com