



WINTER CAMELINA

You may know that cover crops benefit the soil and agricultural operations, but do you know the benefits of each species? Each month we'll highlight a different cover crop species to provide you with the information needed to successfully grow covers or alternative forages on your operation.

AT A GLANCE

- Winter camelina is new to the cover crop world and was bred by researchers at the U of M
- Valuable cash crop used for oil
- Useful for eliminating nitrate and phosphorus contamination

PLANTING DETAILS

- Plant at a depth of 1/4"; min germination temp 38F
- For best growth, plant between mid-July and mid-October; cold tolerance -20F
- Planting rates will vary based on method of seeding and use, but should be in 1-5 lb/acre range; seeds/lb: 400,000.
- Bred to be winter-hardy into the cool northern climates of the Upper Midwest

WINTER CAMELINA AS A CASH CROP

- Camelina contains roughly 35 to 45% oil in its seed
- Oil is commonly used in pet food, and is currently being researched for future use as industrial biofuel or bioplastics
- Camelina will bolt in the spring and mature in June when seeds can be harvested

BENEFITS

Soil Health & Compaction

Winter camelina will provide cover and reduce the amount of erosion, and will breakup soil compaction with its taproot that reaches deep into the soil profile.

Nitrate and Phosphorus Elimination

Camelina helps eliminate nitrate and phosphorus contamination in surface and groundwaters.

Pollinator Power

Flowers of camelina will provide nectar and pollen to pollinators in the spring.



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