

# LA CROSSE SEED FOOD PLOT GUIDE 2024







# BRIER RIDGE Food Plot Seed



Brier Ridge products have been formulated to provide superior performance in establishing, attracting and keeping those trophy bucks, turkeys and upland birds on your property.

In October 2022, La Crosse Seed, a division of DLF USA Inc., acquired Deer Creek Seed, Inc. headquartered in Windsor, Wisconsin.

Deer Creek Seed has served forage, turf, cover crop, and food plot customers since 1980.

Customers will continue to have access to the great Deer Creek Seed service, staff and products that they've come to appreciate. Now part of the La Crosse Seed family, they will have access to a full portfolio of products, including the Brier Ridge™ brand.

Consistently taking world-class whitetails begins with two qualities: genetics and nutrition. Our neighborhood has the genetics and Brier Ridge provides us with the nutrition. Quality seed with excellent germination and strong vigor gives our food plots that extra edge by providing the necessary nutrients to grow the maximum amount of horn the genetics allow."

# **Table of Contents**

FOOD PLOT SEED	2
BRIER RIDGE® SEED MIXES	3
PLANTING WINDOWS	5
DEER CREEK SEED™ SEED MIXES	6
SOIL FIRST® SEED MIXES	10
WHAT MAKES AN IDEAL FOOD PLOT?	11
SOIL FERTILITY	11
BENEFITS OF FERTILIZING	12
WEED CONTROL	13
BEST MANGEMENT PRACTICES	13





Brier Ridge® products have been formulated to provide superior performance in establishing, attracting and keeping those trophy bucks, turkeys and upland birds on your property.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Go to lacrosseseed.com for planting windows and other useful information.

NAME	BRASSICA	LEGUMES	GRASSES	WILD FLOWERS	DESCRIPTION	ANNUAL/ PERENNIAL	SEEDING RATE (LBS/ACRE)	BAG SIZE (LBS)
8847 GT1 FORAGE SOYBEANS		*			<ul> <li>Spring/fall planted annual species offering spring/summer/fall food source</li> <li>Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun</li> <li>Glyphosate tolerant, late maturity soybean stays green longer</li> <li>Increased plant height</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	<b>140,000</b> Seeds/Acre (1" Depth)	<b>140,000</b> Seed Count
BUCKWHEAT				FORBS	<ul> <li>Quick growing broadleaf, grows well in dry/summer conditions</li> <li>Produces leafy above ground biomass for forage and weed supression</li> <li>Aids in settling soil in seed bed preparation for next crop</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	<b>50</b> Lbs Per Acre (½" <b>Depth</b> )	50
BULLS-EYE DEER TURNIPS	•				Early fall planted annual turnip blend offering early/late fall food source     Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun     Turnips will remain green until 10°F     Optimally planted 6 - 8 weeks prior to killing frost, sugars will flush vegetative growth after frost, making it an appealing food source     Unique blend of turnips provide extensive above & below ground growth	ANNUAL	2 Lbs Per ¼ Acre (¼" Depth)	2
DEER CANDY SUGAR BEETS	•				<ul> <li>Late spring planted annual offering early/late fall food source</li> <li>Performs well on medium to heavy, well drained soils in full sun</li> <li>Provides high energy food source from vegetation &amp; root</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	2 - 3 (Drilled) 8 (Brdcast) (½" Depth)	1
FORAGE COLLARDS	•				<ul> <li>Spring/fall planted annual offering summer/late fall food source</li> <li>Thrives in drought &amp; remains green in below 0°F conditions</li> <li>Superior forage quality with high biomass</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	5 (Drilled) 8 (Brdcast) (¾" Depth)	50
FORAGE KALE	*				<ul> <li>Early fall planted annual offering early/late fall food source</li> <li>Kale will remain green until 10°F</li> <li>Short stem, high leaf-to-stem ratio</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	3 (Drilled) 5 (Brdcast) (1/4" Depth)	50
PLOT SPIKE® FORAGE OATS					<ul> <li>Spring/fall planted annual species offering spring/summer/fall food source</li> <li>Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun</li> <li>Late maturing forage oat selected for cold tolerance</li> <li>Easy to establish, producing large amounts of forage</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	100 - 120 (1" Depth)	50
TITAN™ FORAGE RAPESEED	•				A new generation rape x kale interspecies cross with high yielding multi-graze, intermediate height rape     Excellent regrowth potential suitable for summer, autumn and winter feed     Highest animal preference rape cultivar available with aphid and virus tolerance	ANNUAL	3.5 (Drilled) 4 (Brdcast) (¼" <b>Depth)</b>	50
VIVANT FORAGE BRASSICA	•				<ul> <li>Quick establishment &amp; vigorous regrowth, even under close feeding</li> <li>Different than turnips, all the energy of the plant is contained in the leaves</li> <li>Low bolt/high yielding leafy hybrid brassica - high digestability</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	4 (Drilled) 6 (Brdcast) (¼" Depth)	50
WILDLIFE GRAIN SORGHUM (DWARFTYPE)					<ul> <li>Summer planted annual offering cover for upland game birds, migratory birds &amp; deer</li> <li>Drought tolerant - performs in light to heavy soil types &amp; light shade to full sun</li> <li>Quick to establish, requires 60 - 65°F soil temps for planting/germination</li> <li>Food source for various bird species later in fall/winter</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	6 - 8 (Drilled) 8 - 10 (Brdcast) (1" Depth)	50
WILDLIFE SUNFLOWER (PEREDOVIKTYPE)				FORBS	<ul> <li>Spring planted annual offering cover &amp; food source for upland game birds</li> <li>Drought tolerant - performs in light to heavy soil types &amp; light shade to full sun</li> <li>Food source for various bird species later in fall/winter</li> </ul>	ANNUAL	6 - 8 (Drilled) 8 - 10 (Brdcast) (1" Depth)	50





**BAG SEEDING RATE** SIZE SEEDING RATE SIZE (LBS/ACRE) (LBS) (LBS/ACRE) **PERENNIAL MIXES** PERENNIAL HABITAT HIDE-A-WAY **HORN HONEY** 10 PERENNIAL (Drilled) (Brdcast) 5 & 10 **PERENNIAL** 9\* 9 & 50 25% Orion XL Ladino Clover 34% Switchgrass Spring/fall planted perennial • Spring/fall planted native grass mix offering year-round food 25% Red Carpet XL 990 Red Clover perennial mix offering year-33% Indiangrass source 25% Intermediate White Clover round bedding/buffer source 33% Big Bluestem 15% Radium XL Alsike Clover · Performs well on medium to · Performs well on light to 10% Chicory heavy soil types in light heavy soil types in light shade to full sun shade to full sun Natives First® Guide • Includes high energy legumes · Maintenance needed during for establishment that will thrive in various slow establishment period: guidelines geographical locations alternative to Annual Habitat · Chicory will thrive during Hide-A-Way summer months • Will reach heights up to 8 ft tall \*Seed at 1/4" Depth \*Seed at 1/4" Depth ANNUAL/PERENNIAL MIXES **BUCK'S BANQUET DEER COUNTRY POINT BUILDER PLUS** ANNUAL/ ANNUAL/ 5 & 10 4400° 9 & 50 PERENNIAL (Drilled) (Brdcast) PERENNIAL • Spring/fall planted perennial mix 25% Berseem Clover 20% Orion XL Ladino Clover · Early fall planted annual & 20% Orion XL Ladino Clover perennial species offering early/ 20% Rapeseed offering 20% High Sugar Perennial Ryegrass **15%** Purple Top Turnips late fall food source vear-round food source 15% Rapeseed For medium to heavy soil types 15% Tillage Radish® · Performs well on medium to 10% Intermediate White Clover 10% Intermediate White Clover in light shade to full sun heavy soil types in light 10% Chicory • Clover/chicory remain perennial 10% Radium XL Alsike Clover shade to full sun 10% Chicory after brassicas winterkill Includes high sugar perennial · Portion remains green until air grass & high energy legumes temps reach 10 - 15°F • Optimally planted 6 - 8 weeks prior to killing frost \*Seed at 1/4" Depth \*Seed at 1/4" Depth DEER COUNTRY FIELD MIX **DEER COUNTRY TRAIL MIX** ANNUAL/ 10\* ANNUAL/ 15 - 20 10\* 15 - 20 25 PERENNIAL (Drilled) (Brdcast) PERENNIAL (Drilled) (Brdcast) 25% FF Pro Alfalfa 20% High Sugar Perennial Ryegrass Spring/fall planted perennial · Spring/fall planted 20% High Sugar Perennial Ryegrass 20% Berseem Clover mix offering perennial mix offering 15% Orion XL Ladino Clover 20% Intermediate White Clover vear-round food source vear-round food source 10% Radium XL Alsike Clover 15% Crimson Clover · Performs well on light to heavy · Performs well on light to heavy 10% Red Carpet XL Red Clover soil types in light shade to full soil types in moderate 15% Creeping Red Fescue 10% Intermediate White Clover 10% Radium XL Alsike Clover shade to full sun sun 10% Berseem Clover • Includes high energy legumes · Very quick & easy establishment that will thrive in various · Includes shade tolerant species geographical locations

\*Seed at ¼" Depth \*Seed at ¼" Depth



SEEDING RATE SEEDING RATE (LBS/ACRE) (LBS/ACRE)

# **ANNUAL MIXES**

# **ANNUAL HABITAT HIDE-A-WAY**

ANNUAL

10\* 12 (Drilled) (Brdcast)

Summer annual mix planted as

bedding/buffer source

· Performs well on light to

shade to full sun

heavy soil types in light

· Quick to establish, requires

planting/germination, annual alternative to Perennial Habitat

· Can reach heights up to 8 ft tall

60 - 65°F soil temps for

10



60% Summer Select® Forage Sorghum 30% Wildlife Grain Sorghum

10% Wildlife Sunflowers



\*Seed at 1" Depth

# **AUTUMN ENERGY**

food source

full sun

ANNUAL

40\* (Drilled) (Brdcast)

species offering early/late fall

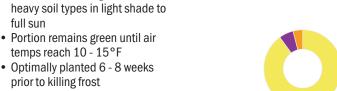
• Early fall planted annual

· Performs well on light to

25

90% Plotspike® Oats 6% Tillage Radish®

4% Purple Top Turnips



**P** 

\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

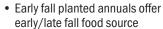
# **RUTN READY**

Hide-A-Way

ANNUAL

6\* 8 (Drilled) (Brdcast)





• For light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun

• Brassicas remain green until air 10% Vivant Brassica temps reach 10 - 15°F

• Optimally planted 6 - 8 weeks prior to killing frost, sugars flush vegetative growth after frost for appealing food source

· Brassicas attract deer early fall & after killing frost

30% Tillage Radish®

20% Rapeseed

20% Purple Top Turnips

10% Forage Kale

10% Forage Collards



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth



CODE	PLANTING ZONE DATES	ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4	
		BRIER RIDGE				
DW	DUOKWUEAT	MAY 15 - JUNE 10	MAY 1 - JUN 30,	APR 15 - MAY 31,	MAR 15 - APR 30,	
BW	BUCKWHEAT	AUG 1 - SEPT 10	JUL 15 - SEP 1	SEP 15 - OCT 15	SEP 15 - OCT 31	
BET	BULLS-EYE DEER TURNIPS	JUL 1 - AUG 1	JUL 15 - SEP 1	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
DC	DEER CANDY SUGAR BEETS	MAY 15 - JUN 30	MAY 1 - JUN 30, JUL 15 - SEP 1	AUG 1 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
FC	FORAGE COLLARDS	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
FK	FORAGE KALE	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
GT1	8847 GT1 FORAGE SOYBEANS	JUN 1 - JUN 30	MAY 15 - JUN 30	APR 1 - JUN 30	APR 1 - JUL 31	
PS	PLOTSPIKE® FORAGE OATS	AUG 1 - AUG 20	AUG 1 - AUG 30	AUG 1 - SEP 31	OCT 1 - NOV 30	
TFR	TITAN™ FORAGE RAPESEED	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
VFB	VIVANT FORAGE BRASSICA	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
WGS WS	WILDLIFE GRAIN SORGHUM WILDLIFE SUNFLOWER	JUN 1 - JUN 30	MAY 15 - JUN 30	EMP @ 60 - 65°F APR 1 - JUN 30	APR 1 - JUL 31	
	AL SPRING/FALL SEEDED	JUIN 1 - JUIN 30	OC MOL- CI TAINI	APR 1-JUN 30	APR 1-JUL31	
нн	HORN HONEY	MAY 15 - JUNE 10	MAY 1 - JUN 30,	AUG 15 - OCT 15	CED 1 OCT 21	
		AUG 1 - SEPT 10	JUL 15 - SEP 1		SEP 1 - OCT 31	
PHH	PERENNIAL HABITAT HIDE-A-WAY		VARIES, SEE N	IATIVES GUIDE		
BB	BUCK'S BANQUET	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
			MAY 1 - JUN 30,	APR 15 - MAY 31,	MAR 15 - APR 30,	
DPB	DEER COUNTRY POINT BUILDER +	JUL 15 - AUG 15	JUL 15 - SEP 1	SEP 1 - OCT 15	SEP 15 - OCT 31	
DCF	DEER COUNTRY FIELD	MAY 15 - JUNE 10	MAY 1 - JUN 30, JUL 15 - SEP 1	APR 15 - MAY 31, SEP 15 - OCT 15	MAR 15 - APR 30, SEP 15 - OCT 31	
		AUG 1 - SEPT 10 MAY 15 - JUNE 10	MAY 1 - JUN 30,	APR 15 - MAY 31,	MAR 15 - APR 30,	
DCT	DEER COUNTRY TRAIL	AUG 1 - SEPT 10	JUL 15 - SEP 1	SEP 15 - OCT 15	SEP 15 - OCT 31	
FALL SEE	DED ANNUALS					
AHH	ANNUAL HABITAT HIDE-A-WAY		,	EMP @ 60 - 65°F		
AE	AUTUMN ENERGY	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
RR SOIL FIRS	RUT N READY WILDLIFE	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
	SF 101 COVER STARTER	NO LATER THAN AUG 15	NO LATER THAN SEP 5	NO LATER THAN SEP 15	NO LATER THAN OCT 1	
	SF 102 COVER STARTER +	NO LATER THAN AUG 15	NO LATER THAN SEP 5	NO LATER THAN SEP 15	NO LATER THAN OCT 1	
SF 125	SF 125 N-HANCER	MAY 15 - JUNE 10	MAY 1 - JUN 30,	APR 15 - MAY 31,	MAR 15 - APR 30,	
		AUG 1 - SEPT 10	JUL 15 - SEP 1	SEP 15 - OCT 15 NO LATER THAN SEP 10	SEP 15 - OCT 31	
	SF 140 MULTI-PURPOSE SF 142 CLASSIC	NO LATER THAN AUG 10 NO LATER THAN AUG 1	NO LATER THAN SEP 1 NO LATER THAN SEP 1			
01 142	01 142 01/10010		CREEK SEED	NO EMERITARIOE 20	NO EMER HIMNOUT	
DEDENINI	AL SPRING/FALL SEEDED					
PPC	PERENNIAL PLUS CLOVERS					
PWC	PREMIUM WHITE CLOVERS					
WCM	WILDLIFE CLOVER MIX	MAY 15 - JUNE 10	MAY 1 - JUN 30	APR 15 - MAY 31	MAR 15 - APR 30	
BCM	BEE CLOVER MIX	AUG 1 - SEPT 10	JUL 15 - SEP 1	SEP 15 - OCT 15	SEP 15 - OCT 31	
LTM	LOGGERS TRAIL MIX					
SUMMER						
QPB SSS	QUAD PRO BEAN SANDY SURE SHOT			ZONE		
WW	WETLAND WATERFOWL			<b>建</b>	ZONE 2	
GBM	GAME BIRD MIX	VARIES, SOIL TEMP @ 60 - 65°F				
SSC	SILVER SCREEN					
SGE	SPRING GREENS ELITE				ZONE 4	
	DED ANNUAL/PERENNIAL					
AB	AUTUMN BUFFET	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
BS	DED ANNUALS BEETS & SWEETS					
AB	AUTUMN BUFFET					
AS	ALL SEASON					
BB	BRASSICA BLEND	JUL 15 - AUG 15	AUG 1 - SEP 15	AUG 15 - OCT 15	SEP 1 - OCT 31	
PTB	PRIME TIME BRASSICA					
SSU	SUCCULENT SUCCOTASH					



SEEDING RATE (LBS/ACRE)

RAG SIZE (LBS)

No.

**SEEDING RATE** (LBS/ACRE)

RAG SIZE (LBS)

FORBS

# **PERENNIAL**

# **PERENNIAL PLUS CLOVERS**

PERENNIAL 8\* 12 (Drilled) (Brdcast)

round food source

to full sun

· Spring/fall/frost planted

perennial mix offering year-

· Performs well on medium to

heavy soil types in light shade

• Includes high energy legumes

that will thrive in various

geographical locations · Chicory will thrive durring

summer months

5 & 25

- ( )
- 25% Chicory 25% Ladino White Clover
- 20% Red Carpet XL 990 Red Clover
- 15% Dutch White Clover
- 15% NZ White Clover



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **PREMIUM WHITE CLOVERS**

PERENNIAL 8\* 12 (Drilled) (Brdcast)

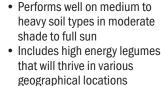
Spring/fall/frost planted

food source

5 & 25



- perennial mix offering year-round 25% Dutch White Clover
  - 25% Ladino White Clover
  - 25% NZ White Clover



· White clovers will fill in areas of overgraze due to stolon root system



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **WILDLIFE CLOVER MIX**

Spring/fall/frost planted

round food source

to full sun

perennial mix offering year-

· Performs well on medium to

legumes that will thrive in

heavy soil types in light shade

various geographical locations

All purpose choice for meadows,

PERENNIAL **15\* 20 - 25** (Drilled) (Brdcast)

5 & 25

15% NZ White Clover 15% Alsike White Clover

15% Med Red Clover

15% Ladino White Clover 15% Dutch White Clover

15% 4N Annual Rvegrass

• Balance of high energy grasses/ 10% High Sugar Perennial Ryegrass



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **BEE CLOVER MIX**

full sun

PERENNIAL 10\* 12 (Drilled) (Brdcast)

• Spring/fall planted perennial

· Performs well on light to heavy

soil types in light shade to

Promotes bee and pollinator

All purpose pollinator to create

a bee and pollinator sanctuary;

insect populations

not meant to be cut

mix offering year-round

flowering/bloom cycles

5 & 25

25% Alfalfa 20% Ladino White Clover

20% Berseem Clover

20% Yellow Blossom Sweet Clover

15% Alsike White Clover



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **LOGGERS TRAIL MIX**

trails, and borders

20\*

PERENNIAL 5 & 25 (Drilled) (Brdcast)

- Spring/fall planted perennial
- mix quick to establish and produce cover · Performs well on light to heavy
- soil types in light shade to full · Will persist in low-fertility,
- acidic, or wet soils and areas with minimal sunlight
- 30% Elite Forage Fescue

- **15%** Annual Ryegrass
- 15% Ladino White Clover
- **10%** Alsike White Clover
- 10% Creeping Red Fescue 10% NZ White Clover
- 10% Perennial Ryegrass



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth



**SEEDING RATE** (LBS/ACRE)

(LBS)

ANNUAL/

**SEEDING RATE** (LBS/ACRE)

**SPRING GREENS ELITE** 

40\*

PERENNIAL (Drilled) (Brdcast)

BAG (LBS)

5 & 25

# ANNUAL/PERENNIAL

# **AUTUMN BUFFET**

food source

to full sun

ANNUAL/ PERENNIAL (Drilled) (Brdcast)

• Early fall planted annual/

· Performs well on medium to

heavy soil types in light shade

Multiple species for maximum

clovers will overwinter

grazing tolerance into late fall &

5 & 25





20% Elite Forage Brassica

perennial mix offering multi-year 20% Trophy Rapeseed

15% Winfred Forage Brassica

**15%** Forage Turnip

10% Ladino White Clover

10% NZ White Clover

10% Red Carpet XL 990 Red Clover

 Late Spring/Summer/fall planted annual/perennial mix offering multi-year food source

50

 Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun

• Multiple species for maximum grazing quality & protects soil from nutrient loss

10% Balansa Clover

10% Buckwheat

10% Trophy Rapeseed

Forage Soybean

10% NZ White Clover

10% Med Red Clover

10% Peredovik Black Sunflower

10% Sunn Hemp

10% Sorghum Sudangrass

10% Italian Ryegrass



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# ANNUAL

# **OUAD PRO BEAN**

40\* 50 (Drilled) (Brdcast) ANNUAL

5 & 25



70% 2 Forage Soybean Varieties

15% Lablab

15% Cowpea

**SANDY SURE SHOT** ANNUAL (Drilled) (Brdcast)

5 & 25





- Spring/Fall planted annual
- Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- Fast growing, high protein mix with forage and vining soybeans
- Matures in approximately 60 days









- Late Spring/Summer/Fall planted annual
- Formulated to persist in light sandy and dryland soil conditions
  - · Attracts deer and other avian wildlife

35% Peredovik Black Sunflower

30% Forage Soybean

20% Buckwheat

10% Berseem Clover

5% Winfred Forage Brassica



\*Seed at 1/2" Depth



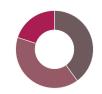
\*Seed at 1" Depth





RASSICAS BAG SEEDING RATE **SEEDING RATE** (LBS/ACRE) (LBS/ACRE) (LBS) **ANNUAL WETLAND WATERFOUL** TRIPLE TREAT 12\* 15\* 20-25 15 5 & 25 ANNUAL ANNUAL 5 & 25 (Drilled) (Brdcast) (Drilled) (Brdcast)

- Spring/Fall Planted annual clover blend
- · Performs well on medium to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- · Nitrogen fixing and biomass producing mix excellent for plot rotation
- Triple purpose food source, soil health, nitrogen builing
- 40% Balansa Clover 40% Berseem Clover
- 20% Crimson Clover



- Late spring/summer planted annual and perennial blend Performs well on light to heavy
- soil types in light shade to
- · Quick to establish, requires 60-65° F soil temps for planting/ germination
- Ideal attractant for waterfowl and other avian species

- 35% Japanese Millet
- 20% Forage Sorghum 20% Spring Oat
- 10% Buckwheat 10% Proso Millet
- 5% Alsike Clover



\*Seed at 1/4-1/2" Depth

### **GAME BIRD MIX SILVER SCREEN** 25\* 30 ANNUAL ANNUAL 5 & 25 5 & 25 (Drilled) (Brdcast) (Drilled) (Brdcast)

- Late spring/summer planted
- · Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- Quick to establish, requires 60-65° F soil temps for planting/germination
- · Ideal attractant for upland game birds and other avian species
- Peredovik Black Sunflower
- **Dwarf Grain Sorghum**
- 15% Forage Soybean 10% Buckwheat

\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

- 10% Japanese Millet
- 10% Pearl Millet

\*Seed at 1/2" Depth

5% Proso Millet



- Late spring/summer planted annual for bedding/buffer source
- · Performs well on light to heavy well-drained soil types in light shade to full sun
- · Quick to establish, requires 60-65° F soil temps for planting/germination
- Can reach hieghts up to 8-10 ft tall
- 35% Forage Sorghum 35% Grain Sorghum
- 30% Egyptian Wheat



\*Seed at 1" Depth

# **BRASSICA BLEND**

ANNUAL 8\*

5 & 25



- 20% Winfred Forage Brassica
- 20% Rapeseed 20% Elite Forage Brassica
- 15% High Performance Turnip
- 15% Forage Turnip
- 5% Rutabaga
- 5% Forage Kale



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **BEET & SWEETS**

food source

ANNUAL

10\* 12 (Drilled) (Brdcast)







- · Early fall planted annuals offer early/late fall food source
- · Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- · Brassicas remain green until air temps reach 10-15° F
- Optimally planted 6-8weeks prior to killing frost, sugars flush vegetative growth after frost for appealing food source early and into late fall/winter

- · Early fall planted annuals offer early/late fall high sugar
- · Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- Quick to establish brassicas remain green until air temps reach 10-15° F
- · Optimally planted 6-8weeks prior to killing frost, sugars flush vegetative growth after frost for appealing food source early and into late fall/winter

- 45% Sugar Beet
- 20% Swiss Chard **15%** Forage Turnip
- 10% Forage Kale
- 10% Berseem Clover



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth



BRASSICAS **BAG SEEDING RATE SEEDING RATE** (LBS/ACRE) (LBS) (LBS/ACRE) (LBS)

### ANNUAL

# **PRIMETIME BRASSICA**

ANNUAL

10\*

5 & 25



- Early fall planted annuals offer early/late fall food source Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full
- Quick to establish, brassicas remain green until air temps reach 10-15° F
- Optimally planted 6 8 weeks prior to killing frost, sugars flush vegetative growth after frost for appealing food source early and into late fall/winter



- 25% Daikon Forage Radish 25% Elite Forage Brassica
- 25% Forage Turnip
- 25% Winfred Forage Brassica



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **SUCCULENT SUCCOTASH**

ANNUAL

20-25 10\* (Drilled) (Brdcast)

5 & 25





- · Early fall planted annuals offer early/late fall food source Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- Compounding benefits from cereal grains, clovers, and forage brassicas
- Optimally planted 6 8 weeks prior to killing frost, sugars flush vegetative growth after frost for appealing food source early and into late fall/winter

60% Arctic Brand Forage Oat

15% Balansa Clover 15% Berseem Clover

2.5% Daikon Oilseed Radish

2.5% Rapeseed

2.5% Elite Forage Brassica

2.5% Giant Rapeseed



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **ALL SEASON MIX**

ANNUAL

50\*

25 & 50

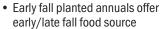












- Performs well on light to heavy soil types in light shade to full sun
- Winter Rye will overwinter providing addition food source following spring
- Optimally planted 6 8 weeks prior to killing frost, large biomass production for food source early and into late fall/ winter for areas of heavy feeding pressure

35% Winter Rye

15% Barley

15% Buckwheat 15% Forage Pea

15% Spring Oat

2.5% Rapeseed

2.5% Forage Turnip



\*Seed at 1/4" Depth

# **Deer Creek Species Offered in Small Packs (5 Lb)**

Legumes	Grasses	Broadleaves
Med Red Clover	Egyptian Wheat	Buckwheat
Alsike Clover	Deer Field Corn	Chicory
Berseem Clover	Japanese Millet	Forage Kale
Ladino Clover	Pearl Millet	Tillage Radish
Reisling Intermediate White Clover	High Sugar Perennial Ryegrass	Rapeseed
Alfalfa PI	Wildlife Grain Soghum (Dwarf)	Rutabaga
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Sweet Corn (Deer)	Swiss Chard
Yellow Blossom Sweet Clover	Winter Rye	Forage Soybean
		Sugar Beet
		Peredovik Black Oilseed Sunflower
		Purple Top Turnip
		Seven Top Turnip

# Soil First® Mixes

Cover crops are being used across the country for many reasons. Besides soil and water quality benefits, integrating summer, fall and winter cover crops can supply much needed forage for hay, silage and pasture through fall and spring, and many of our Soil First® cover crop mixes also make excellent food plots!





# **SOIL FIRST® 101 COVER STARTER**



# **Overwintering Annual**

- Fall planted mix offering fall/early spring food source due to over wintering
- · Meets objectives of nutrient scavenging, erosion control, weed suppression, and soil building
- Easy to establish providing large amounts of forage, dual purpose cover crop/food source



91% Guardian® Winter Rye SEEDING (LBS/ACRE) 9% Tillage Radish®

Forage/Cover: 40 - 50 (1/2" Depth)

# **Overwintering Annual**

**SOIL FIRST® 102 COVER STARTER +** 

- Fall planted mix offering fall/early spring cover and food source due to over wintering
- Similar to SF 102 but includes a nitrogen fixing legume crimson clover
- Easy to establish provided large amounts of forage, dual purpose covercrop/food source



72% Guardian® Winter Rye SEEDING (LBS/ACRE)

20% Crimson Clover

8% Tillage Radish®

Forage/Cover: 40 - 50 (1/2" Depth)



# **SOIL FIRST® 125 N-HANCER**



### Winter Terminating Annual (Varies Geographically)

- · Spring/Fall planted mix designed as a nitrogen booster in front of grass species food plot
- Mix produces large amounts of biomass which can survive heavy grazing pressure
- · Easy to establish, nutrient cycling, dual purpose cover crop/food source



30% Defender Oats 25% Spring Peas

20% Balansa Clover 20% Crimson Clover

5% Tillage Radish®



# **Overwintering Annual**

**SOIL FIRST® 140 MULTI-PURPOSE** 

- · Fall planted mix formulated for maximizing food source through fall/early spring
- Mix formulated for nitrogen fixation and nutrient sequestration
- Easy to establish, nutrient cycling, dual purpoase cover crop/food source



**50%** Nitrous® Winter Trit

38% Winter Peas

6% Tillage Radish® 6% Forage Brassica

(1/4" Depth)

SEEDING (LBS/ACRE)

Forage/Cover: 40 - 50

# **SOIL FIRST® 142 CLASSIC**



### Winter Terminating Annual (Varies Geographically)

- Spring/Fall planted mix formulated for nitrogen fixation/ sequestration
- Versitile mix can acompany many other small grain
- · Easy to establish, nitrogen producer, nutrient cycling, dual purpose cover crop/food source



70% Crimson Clover 30% Tillage Radish®

**SEEDING (LBS/ACRE)** Forage/Cover: 15

(1/4" Depth)

**SEEDING (LBS/ACRE)** 

Forage/Cover: 40 - 50

(1/4" Depth)

**Support Pest Control** 

**Break Soil Compaction Build Organic Material Conserve Soil Moisture** 



Cover crops and green manures prevent captured nutrients from being lost through soil erosion, leaching and volatilization. **Sequester/Cycle Nutrients Create a Nitrogen Source Reduce Soil Erosion Weed Control Generate Extra Forage** Wildlife Shelter Increase Soil Structure **Financial Value** 

in our soils use carbon to build organic matter and in turn store nutrients.

Carbon reserves allow nutrients to be scavenged, supplying food for the soil

ecosystem, instead of robbing the microbes' reserves left from the organic matter. Aggregate stability leads to increased soil structure, which ultimately

leads to better nutrient cycling, and better movement of water and oxygen.





# WHAT MAKES AN IDEAL FOOD PLOT?

Let's start with the size of the food plot.

# **OPTIONS FOR CALCULATING FOOD PLOT SIZE** ACRES = LENGTH (L) x WIDTH (W) 43,560 **EXAMPLE:** W = 300 FEET L = 1,742 FEET 1,742 X 300 = 11.997 ACRES 43.560 ACRES = $\frac{1}{2}$ [LENGTH (L) x WIDTH (W)] 43,560 EXAMPLE: W = 300 FEET L = 1,742 FEET $\frac{1}{2}$ (1,742 X 300) = 5.99 ACRES 43,560 ACRES = $\pi \times R^2$ $\pi = 3.14$ R = RADIUS 43,560 EXAMPLE: R = 340 FEET 3.14 x 340<sup>2</sup> = 8.33 ACRES 43,560

# Rule of Thumb:

Allow 1/4 to 1/2 acre in multiple areas.

Numerous small plots are generally more productive for hunters. rather than one or two large plots. Deer, especially mature bucks, are more likely to use food plots during daylight hours if plots are smaller and surrounded by thick cover. Plots should

receive four to five hours of sunlight per day. If small plots are receiving too much grazing pressure, then planting a large "feeding" plot in the center of your property can take stress off smaller plots. Generally speaking, planting 2-5% of your property in food plots is ideal, with about 2/3 of those plots being perennial forages.

As you plan the food plot, take into consideration the landform and the type of soil.

- It should be free, open and without obstacles such as large rocks, low hanging branches and sudden dropoffs.
- The soil should be able to supply high quality feed. If it isn't already in the right condition, you'll have to treat it before planting.
- Once planted, the ground cover should provide a soft cushion to prevent stress on limbs and it should be attractive.

If managed wisely, a food plot will be both an economical source of high-quality feed for deer, as well as cover for other wildlife.

If managed poorly or ignored, a food plot can soon become nothing more than an overgrazed weed patch that not only has little nutritional value, but may even contribute to health problems.



# SOIL FERTILITY

Soil is the foundation of a healthy food plot, so it's essential that you know what condition your foundation is in before planting. More than likely, the land you're turning into a food plot was once used for other purposes.

Soil that is deficient in the proper nutrients, or out of pH balance, cannot produce forage that has high nutritional value. The only reliable way to know what the soil needs -and doesn't need -is to test, don't guess.

The best time to soil test is in the fall and early spring, before previous residue starts to breakdown. If fertilization has already taken place, you should wait at least 12 weeks before testing, in order to get an accurate reading.

When taking samples, use clean tools. Pesticide or fertilizer

residues on the tools, or in the container, will create misleading results. Take six to eight cores from each food plot where the soil type and topography are fairly uniform and the food plot has been uniformly managed, with regard to the crop grown or fertilizer applied. Limit the maximum area of each sample to no more than 2 acres. Collect a sample by making a random zig-zag pattern over the entire field. Mix the cores thoroughly and then submit about a pint of soil to the lab.

# Rule of Thumb:

Soil test every two to three years. Take soil from the top 3 to 5 inches.



BENEFITS OF **FERTILIZING** 

> Fertilization enables the plant to develop denser and deeper roots which allow it to:

Absorb more

nutrients and moisture.

- Develop denser foliage to increase the absorption of sunlight.
- Increases the plant's ground cover, which inhibits the growth of weeds.

# THE FOOD PLOT'S BUILDING BLOCKS: N.P.K.



**NITROGEN (N)** - the first number on a bag of fertilizer

Nitrogen is critical for the maximum growth of cool season grasses. An adequate supply of nitrogen is associated with vigorous vegetative growth and a plant's dark green color. Nitrogen is very mobile in the soil. It moves from the soil into the plant as part of the growth process and seeping water can leach it out of the soil over time. Therefore, it must be continually replenished.

The preferred sources of nitrogen are Ammonium Sulfate (21-0-0-24) or Urea (46-0-0).

Ammonium Sulfate aides the new plants without burning them if put on at too high of a rate or when under higher temperatures. Urea is best used in the spring, when temperatures are lower. If it's applied when temperatures are hotter, high levels of volatilization may occur. (http:// ohioline.osu.edu/b760/b760 3.html)

Heavily grazed food plots with high yielding forages require approximately 100-150 pounds of actual Nitrogen/acre/ year.

# Rule of Thumb:

Three applications of Nitrogen at 50 lbs./acre/year each.

- Summer, if rains are present to promote growth.
- Spring and fall.



PHOSPHORUS (P) - the second number on a bag of fertilizer

Plants require phosphorus for steady, strong growth. As growth occurs, phosphorus is used to efficiently use sugars and starches and to maximize photosynthesis in the young roots, stems and leaves. When adequate phosphorus is in the soil, you will generally see rapid growth, earlier maturity and frequently the quality of vegetative growth is improved. (http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$department/deptdocs. nsf/all/agdex920?opendocument)

# **Rule of Thumb:**

40-60 lbs./acre/year or based on the soil test.

Phosphorous is directly related to milk production of the doe and antler growth of the buck.



POTASSIUM (K) - the third number on a bag of fertilizer

Potassium is required for overall strong plant growth, increased disease resistance and increased winter hardiness.

# Rule of Thumb:

250-300 lbs./acre/year or based on the soil test.

# WHAT IF SOIL PH IS NOT IDEAL?

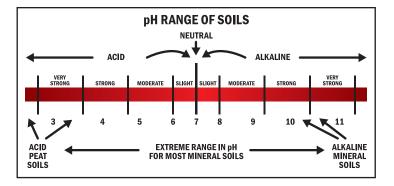
For the food plot to reach its full nutritional potential, the soil's pH range should be between 6.0 to 7.0. Legumes require a higher pH than the grasses, due in part to the rhizobia activity in the root nodules. The rhizobia have a higher pH requirement for nitrogen fixation than the plant has for growth. Within grasses, the warm-season grasses are more tolerant of low pH values than the cool-season grasses. But, there are important reasons to maintain a pH of 6.0 to 7.0, even if you are planting a warm-season grass.

- Most nutrients that a plant needs are available within the 6.0 to 7.0 pH range.
- Some problem weed species are more competitive at lower pH values.
- Over-seeded winter annuals, especially clovers, require a higher pH for optimum growth and production.

 Nitrogen fertilizer is a major acidifying force in food plots. Therefore, high nitrogen rates can rapidly decrease the soil pH. (http://hubcap.clemnson.edu/blpprt/pasture/grasing.html)

### **BALANCING THE PH**

Fall is the best time to boost pH levels by applying lime because it allows the soil to neutralize, which takes from four to six months.



# WEED CONTROL

The presence of weeds and brush in a food plot often indicates poor food plot management, typically either overgrazing or inadequate fertilization. Because they compete with desirable food plot species for water, sunlight and nutrients, their presence reduces both the longevity and nutritional value of a food plot stand.

The best weed control is achieved by maintaining a dense healthy stand of grasses and legumes through proper fertilization, cutting management and higher seed rates.

Once broadleaf weeds take root in a food plot, chemicals such as 2,4-D<sup>1</sup>, Banvel® or Crossbow® may be used to take control. Keep the following in mind:

- Chemicals are non-selective they kill beneficial broadleaf plants, like legumes and clover, in addition to noxious plants such as multi-flora rose and brambles.
- To control broadleaf weeds in a legume food plot, you must control them the year before and plant the legumes the following year. Mowing is the best alternative.
- For the chemical to be effective, weeds must be actively growing when it's applied. Follow the label.
- Round-Up® can be used to remove difficult perennials; however, Round-Up® will take out beneficial plants at the same time and will require reseeding of those areas.

- Use pesticides as spot treatments only. Do not broadcast them throughout the food plot.
- It's best to apply herbicides in early spring.

### **CAUTION:**

Use pesticides only when necessary, and at the recommended dosages and timing, to keep residues within the limit the set by the law. Before using any pesticide, read the label and follow all directions and safety precautions listed.

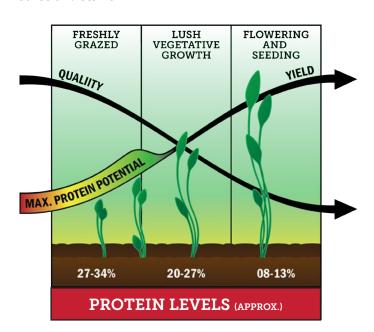
<sup>1</sup>2,4-D is an option for broadleaf weed control in legume- and grass-based plots. It does not kill all broadleaf weeds.

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

# **MOWING**

Mowing has two primary advantages. First, it reduces weeds and second, it improves the food plot's productivity.

Mowing before the weed's seedheads are produced, prevents weeds from spreading. Mowing also keeps the plants shorter, which deer prefer because it has less fiber, is higher in protein and more nutrients reside in the younger leaves and stems.



### RENOVATION

Ideally it would be best to plow the food plot and grow an annual crop, such as corn or oats, for one year and seed the food plot the following year. Growing an annual crop helps remove both broadleaf and grass weeds that have

strong root systems, destroys mole runs, breaks down the compacted sod and allows the preparation of a good seedbed.

An alternative method is to till the food plot in late fall and leave tilled over winter. Then work a new seedbed in the spring by rotovation or plowing, followed by dragging into a smooth, firm seedbed. It is important that all past plants be buried so they don't re-grow.

Seeding in early spring offers the greatest opportunity for successful renovation. Later plantings are likely to suffer during summer droughts because they don't have the root structure to survive. Also, bacterial nodulation of legumes slows when plants are under moisture stress and weeds become more competitive. If you must plant during the summer, make sure to irrigate sufficiently in order to establish plant growth.

Planting in early fall can also be successful, depending on moisture levels and temperatures. It is important the seedling is established 45-60 days before temperatures drop to freezing, so plants can get an adequate root system established. (http://clallam. wsu.edu/waterquality/pasture.html)

Seed needs to have good soil contact. This can best be accomplished by using a drill to plant. Broadcast seeding is not recommended because it does not ensure soil contact nor seed placement. If broadcast seeding is the only option, follow with a drag or cultipacker to push seed into the top 1/8 to 1/4 inch of the soil.

## **FROST SEEDING**

Frost /dormant seeding legumes and grasses is an efficient way to improve food plot yields or change the forage composition within your food plot. This is done in late fall after soil temperatures are below 40 degrees Fahrenheit or early spring before soils warm above 40 degrees Fahrenheit. This allows the new seedlings to establish without heavy competition.

Frost seeding has several benefits over traditional forms for planting:

- Ability to establish forage in an undisturbed sod bed.
- Reduced need for labor and energy.
- Minimum equipment investment.
- Shortened "non-grazing" period.
- Maintains stand productivity for both grasses and legumes.

As with other planting methods, soil contact is essential for success. This can be achieved by mowing closely in the fall or winter, down to 2 inches, in order to open up stands and expose soil. Sod-type grasses (bluegrass, brome) are the most difficult to frost seed, especially where a thick layer of thatch covers the soil surface. In these instances, spraying out the bluegrass or bromegrass and starting over is the best solution. Preferred species are festulolium, ryegrass, orchardgrass, Ladino clover and red clover.

In the spring, it's important to reduce plant competition so the new seedlings can develop adequate root systems. By mowing or animal grazing down to 2 inches in the fall, spring regrowth from established plants is slowed down, allowing the seedlings to take hold. As the new seedlings take hold, follow the prescribed routine to ensure strong root growth and thicken up the foot plot more quickly:

- Allow food plot to grow 6-8 inches.
- · Mow it.
- Allow it to re-grow to 6-8 inches.
- Mow it again.
- After the second mowing, allow the food plot to regrow. Then, either allow it to grow for cover or continue mowing cycle.

# **WATER**

Like other field crops, food plots benefit from adequate water throughout the growing season. It provides for faster recovery, maintains productivity and lengthens the life of the food plot.

The amount of water required each week depends on the type of soil and weather conditions. Different soils hold water better than others. A soil test will indicate the amount of watering that is required.

# **REFERENCES:**

- The Grass Can Be Greener
- Dr. Clyde Johnson, DVM Spofford, NH
- Johnson Agronomy Department Purdue
- Purdue University
- K.D. Johnson, Agronomy Department
- · M.A. Russell, Animal Sciences Department
- Photos of plants used with permission
- Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

# In The Crosshairs

One of the goals at La Crosse Seed is to provide our customers with relevant and helpful information on a regular basis. Currently, La Crosse Seed sends regular email newsletters that communicate relevant topics. Check out "In The Crosshairs" for timely updates on wildlife and food plots.

Email info@laxseed.com to SIGN UP TODAY!



General questions can also be sent to info@laxseed.com



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