

TURNIPS

- Small seed size is conducive for easier planting (especially in broadcast applications)
- Good tolerance to dry weather
- Rapid growth provides good early season weed suppression
- Aids in breaking up compaction
- Longer stay-green improves sequestration of excess nutrients left from cash crops

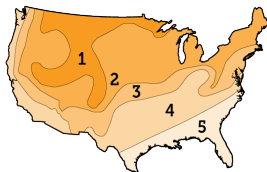
Turnips are an upright, cool season broadleaf which make the perfect dual-purpose cover crop. Their tubers and roots penetrate the soil and cycle nutrients. Early fall planted turnips provide a massive amount of dry matter, while helping to control erosion and suppress weeds. They also work great as a forage crop, especially when mixed with small grains to extend the fall grazing period. While popular options like purple top turnips have large bulbs or tubers, some varieties are bred for a lesser bulb size and larger tops. These options work especially well in grazing environments, and depending on how quickly they regrow, some varieties even allow for multiple grazing cycles into the fall and winter months.

Considerations:

- Grows best in pH 5.5 – 6.8
- Avoid using radish in cropping systems with other brassicas (disease bridge – club root)
- Turnips should be combined with other forages, namely lesser digestible grass or dry hay in ruminant animals (to prevent potential livestock disorders)
- Introduce livestock to turnips slowly

Planting Window

1. No later than August 20
2. No later than September 1
3. No later than September 10
4. No later than September 20
5. No later than October 1



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PREMIUM
COVER CROP SEED