In-Season Cover Crop Establishment into Corn Grain or Silage in Northern Wisconsin

- Species are often planted in a mix; adjust seeding rates accordingly
- Check herbicide program before interseeding into corn; residual herbicides can injure cover crops
- Aerial or other broadcast seeding is an option for earlier establishment into standing corn with some risk; corn should be senesced from the ground to the ear with harvest planned within two weeks; dry conditions after seeding, presence of slugs and sandy soils will limit success
- Broadcast seeding is often more successful in finer textured soils and when timed with an upcoming rainfall event

### INTERSEEDING (EARLY SEASON)

**Corn growth stage:** V3 - V8

- **DRILL**
  - red clover: 6-12 lb/A
  - winter rye: 40-60 lb/A
  - annual ryegrass: 20-40 lb/A
  - radish in a mix: 1-3 lb/A

### OVERSEEDING (LATE SEASON)

**Corn growth stage:** R5 - harvest maturity (grain)

- **AERIAL OR HIGH CLEARANCE**
  - GRAIN: 50% dry down, R7 growth stage
    - winter rye: 60-90 lb/A
  - SILAGE: 50% dry down, 2 weeks before harvest
    - winter rye: 60-90 lb/A

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1. Drills can be modified for interseeding into standing corn crop
   - Watch our video at https://youtu.be/gMKx2NeBmT4
2. Aerial application with airplane or high clearance equipment for broadcasting seed
3. Brassica species should be planted as a small percentage of a mix, as they provide little biomass and decompose quickly

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NPM
Northern Wisconsin

October 2019
Cover Crop Selection
Following Corn Grain or Silage in Northern Wisconsin

- Seeding rates are for drill establishment; broadcast rates should be increased 20-30%
- Cover crop seeding rates should be adjusted for the goal of the cover crop (for example: erosion reduction, nitrogen scavenging, soil building)
- Plant all species listed below with adequate fertility by Sept 1st for best fall cover and spring forage yields (~1-2 TDM/A)
- Spring cereal grains (oats, barley) planted after October 1st will achieve minimal growth before frost
- Winter cereal grains (rye, triticale) planted in mid-October or later will have minimal fall growth but with adequate snow cover, typically over-winter providing some spring cover
- If harvesting the cover crop as forage, review planting interval restrictions for previous herbicides used (at least two growing seasons)

Cover Crop Selection Diagram:

**COVER CROP**

- Plant cover crop on or before:
  - Sept 1st
  - Oct 1st
  - Oct 15th

  - Oats: 30-60 lb/A
  - Spring barley: 50-75 lb/A
  - Winter triticale: 40-60 lb/A
  - Winter rye: 40-60 lb/A

**FORAGE**

- Plant forage on or before:
  - Sept 15th
  - Oct 1st

  - Winter triticale: 90-110 lb/A
  - Winter rye: 90-110 lb/A

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