

Japanese millet is a useful summer cover crop in the Southern region. The amount of biomass produced depends on the variety and planting date with later planting having lower biomass. It will winterkill, but not before viable seeds are produced. Japanese millet is very tolerant of wet soils, and does not like droughty conditions.

**Recommended Varieties**

Variety	Reasons Why	Source
Chiwapa	Good biomass, late maturing variety 60 – 70 days in June, if planted in August is 40 – 45 days. Tolerant of wet soils.	Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center data
Common Japanese millet	Matures faster, 40 – 45 days.	Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center data

**Planting Information**

Information	Comments	Source
Drilled Seed Depth (inches)	¼ - ½	Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Drilled Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	10 - 12	Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Broadcast Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	12 - 15	Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Aerial Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	Not recommended.	

**Termination Information**

Information	Source
Japanese millet can be terminated by mowing, herbicides, and tillage. It will also winterkill, but not before it sets viable seeds.	Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Consult your local Extension and state Pest Management Handbook for herbicide recommendations. Always follow the herbicide label.	

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Cultural Traits

Traits		Comments	Source
Typical Dry Matter Range (lbs/acre)	5,300 - 10,000	High end of the range is Chiwapa.	Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Typical Total N Range (lbs/acre)	0		
Life Cycle	Summer annual grass		
Growth Habit	Upright		
Preferred Soil pH	5.5 - 6.5	May be more acid and salt tolerant than other millets.	Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Relative Seed Cost (\$/acre)	\$	Costs are different depending on variety, Chiwapa could be more expensive.	Based on survey of seed costs using maximum price and max seeding rate
Min. Germination Temp (F)	65°		Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool
Cautions	Can accumulate nitrates under drought conditions that can present problems for grazing. Check with your state's wildlife resources department on how hunting regulations may effect planting and management.		

Sources:

Jimmy Carter Plant Materials Center Annual Reports:

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ga/plantsanimals/?cid=nrcs144p2\\_022076](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ga/plantsanimals/?cid=nrcs144p2_022076)

Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool - Missouri Data: <http://mccc.msu.edu/covercroptool/infosheet.php>