

Wheat does not produce as much biomass as cereal rye, triticale or oats, but it can be a good place to start. Soft wheat is preferred for biomass production over hard wheat in the Coastal Plain. Seed costs are low and for some that is a deciding factor. You should use tested seeds to make sure are not planting noxious weeds. Bin run seed may not be tested so buyer beware. You should choose a variety that is Hessian fly resistant to prevent damage and pest build up.

Recommended Varieties

Variety	Reasons Why	Source
AGS 2033, Pioneer 26R94	Recommended for forage in Coastal Plain.	Georgia Forages

Planting Information

Information	Comments	Source
Drilled Seed Depth (inches)	½ - 1 ½	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Drilled Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	60 - 120	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Broadcast Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	60 - 150	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Aerial Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	N/A	

Termination Information

Information	Source
Wheat can be terminated by mowing, rolling & crimping, herbicides, tillage, high density grazing and combinations of these practices. Termination timing depends on goals. For weed suppression, wheat should be terminated at milk to soft dough stage. Herbicide or tillage should be conducted before seed matures.	Managing Cover Crop Profitably
Consult your local Extension and state Pest Management Handbook for herbicide recommendations. Always follow the herbicide label.	

Continue to next page...

Cultural Traits

Traits	Comments	Source
Typical Dry Matter Range (lbs/acre)	3,000 - 6,000	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Typical Total N Range (lbs/acre)	10 - 25	Unpublished Literature Review in Coastal Plain – Gaskin
Life Cycle	Cool season annual grain	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Growth Habit	Upright	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Preferred Soil pH	5.5 - 7.5	Not as tolerant of soil acidity as cereal rye. Georgia Forages, Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Relative Seed Cost (\$/acre)	\$\$\$	Based on survey of seed costs using maximum price and max seeding rate
Min. Germination Temp (F)	38°	Managing Cover Crops Profitably
Cautions	Wheat does not generate enough biomass to effectively suppress weeds in following cash crop in a no-till system.	

Sources:

Georgia Forages: <http://caes2.caes.uga.edu/commodities/fieldcrops/forages/species/Wheat.html>

Managing Cover Crops Profitably: <https://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Books>