

Mustard is known for good biomass production and excellent pest control - both in terms of weed suppression and soil borne insect and pathogen reduction. It is a rapid germinator and moderately rapid mature (85-90 days). Taproots are known to be strong and effective at combating soil compaction. Do not plant with other brassicas, as interactive inhibition is often reported. Good to include as insurance in mixes with grasses and/or legumes as it will flourish in wet years when other species have trouble maintaining root systems.

Recommended Varieties

Variety	Reasons Why	Source
Tame Mustard	Good in mixes to hedge against unusually wet years when other species fail to produce biomass	Texas A&M AgriLife
White Mustard		
Yellow Mustard		

Planting Information

Information	Comments	Source
Drilled Seed Depth (Inches)	1/4"-1/2"	Personal communications
Drilled Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	5-8	
Broadcast Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	6-12	
Aerial Seeding Rate (lbs/acre)	N/A	No available data

Termination Information

Information	Source
Can be mowed, plowed in, or terminated with broadcast herbicide* (e.g. glyphosate + 2,4-D)	
*Always follow herbicide labels for crop to be terminated and for compatibility with subsequent crop(s). Consult your local Extension and state Pest Management Handbook for herbicide recommendations.	

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Cultural Traits

Traits	Comments	Source
Typical Dry Matter Range (lbs/acre)	2,000-4,000	SARE
Typical Total N Range (lbs/acre)	Low 20-50 lbs as scavenged	
Life Cycle	Winter annual	
Growth Habit	Upright Broadleaf	
Preferred Soil pH	5.5-8.5	
Relative Costs	\$\$	
Min. Germination Temp	45°F	
Cautions	Can inhibit other brassica species when planted together.	

Sources:

Texas A&M AgriLife:
 Unpublished data from field trials (2017-2020)
 Personal Communications with Blackland Farmers and Seed Suppliers.

SARE:
<https://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Books/Managing-Cover-Crops-Profitably-3rd-Edition/Text-Version/Nonlegume-Cover-Crops/Brassicac-and-Mustards>