

Wheat does not produce as much biomass as cereal rye, triticale or oats, but it can be a good place to start. 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. Wheat should not be planted before cash cereal crops.

Recommended Varieties

Variety	Reasons Why	Source
AGS 2024, AGS 2038, Pioneer 26R10, Pioneer 26R41	Recommended for forage in Georgia.	Georgia Forages
SS8641		Clemson University

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. Consult your local Extension and state Pest Management Handbook for herbicide recommendations. Always follow the herbicide label.	Managing Cover Crop Profitably

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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	
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. Check local state hunting regulations before planting. Not recommended for planting before mid-October in Piedmont and early October in Mountains and Ridge&Valley due to potential Hessian fly infestation.	

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>