

# TRITICALE (*X Triticosecale* Wittmack)

Triticale is not widely used as a cover crop. Its biomass and flowering date are intermediate between cereal rye and wheat. If weeds need to be controlled in the cover crop, triticale has more labeled herbicides available than cereal rye. Suppresses root-knot nematodes.

### **Recommended Varieties**

Variety	Reasons Why	Source
FL 01143 (seeds may be limited),	Recommended forage varieties for the	Georgia Forages
FL 08128 (seeds may be limited)	Coastal Plain.	
NF 201	Recommended forage variety	Georgia Forages
Trical 342	Recommended forage variety.	Georgia Forages, Clemson
		University

## **Planting Information**

Information		Comments	Source
Drilled Seed	1 - 2		IPNI Forage Crop Pocket Guide
Depth (inches)			
Drilled Seeding	60 - 70	Based on cereal rye seeding rates.	
Rate (lbs/acre)			
Broadcast	70 - 100		
Seeding Rate			
(lbs/acre)			

## **Termination Information**

Information	Source
Most vegetable farmers use mowing and incorporation for termination. Flail mowers provide the finest residue and most even distribution, but rotary mowers can be used. Small scale farmers can use weed-eaters on smaller beds. Residue should be incorporated as soon after mowing as possible. Leave at least 2 weeks for residue to decompose before planting. If there is high biomass, then 3 weeks or more may be needed. Decomposition is greater in moist, warm conditions. If the soil is dry then irrigation may be necessary. Cool soils conditions will lengthen time needed before planting.	USDA Cereal Rye Plant Guide
With no-till production, apply herbicide and then roll and crimp 2 days later. For organic systems, roll/crimp, and then repeat in same direction 2-3 days later. For weed suppression, triticale should be terminated at milk to soft dough stage. To reduce potential nitrogen immobilization, it should be terminated before flowering.	
If using herbicides for termination, consult your local Extension and state Pest Management Handbook for herbicide recommendations. Always follow the herbicide label.	

#### Continue to next page...

# southerncovercrops.org



#### **Cultural Traits**

Traits	C	omments	Source
Typical Dry	4,000 - 7,000		Texas A&M Forages
Matter Range			
(lbs/acre)			
Typical Total N	Not available		
Range (lbs/acre)			
Life Cycle	Cool season		IPNI Forage Crop Pocket Guide
	annual grain		
Growth Habit	Upright		
Preferred Soil pH	5.5 - 7.5		Texas A&M Forages
Relative Seed	\$\$\$\$		Based on survey of seed costs
Cost (\$/acre)			using maximum price and max
			seeding rate
Min. Germination	34 to 39°		
Temp (F)			
Cautions			

#### Sources:

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

IPNI Forage Crop Pocket Guide: <u>https://store.ipni.net/products/forage-crop-pocket-guide</u>

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

Texas A&M Forages:

https://stephenville.tamu.edu/topics/forages/forage-species/cool-season-annuals-perennials/triticale/