



# Cover Crop Species Selector

## Get recommendations for your field and goals

### The Challenge

Cover cropping can address critical environmental concerns, such as decreasing soil erosion, improving soil health, crowding out weeds, conserving water, and supplying nitrogen. But choosing from among hundreds of cover crop species and mixes can be a daunting task for farmers, who need to plant species best suited to their field conditions and goals.

### Our Response

To help farmers across the U.S., we developed the online Cover Crop Species Selector ([covercrop-selector.org](http://covercrop-selector.org)). We built this free, user-friendly, open-source decision support tool using a framework developed by the Midwest Cover Crops Council. Experts from all four regional U.S. cover crop councils—in the Northeast, South, Midwest, and West—provided updated, regionally specific information and helped test and fine-tune the tool.

### How to Use the Cover Crop Species Selector

1. Create a free account for a personalized history and seamless cross-device experience (optional).
2. Select your state and indicate your field's location by entering an address, moving the pin, and/or drawing a polygon. The tool automatically populates certain site conditions, such as soil composition, frost dates, and annual precipitation.
3. Enter your cover cropping goals and (optional) cash crop growing window. The tool generates output (screenshot at right) showing cover crop species appropriate for your field location and goals.
4. Sort and filter the results by specifying further traits of interest such as impact on weeds, environmental tolerances, and growth traits.
5. Select species and compare them side by side, or simply browse species.

The tool contains images and detailed descriptions of up to 45 cover crop species appropriate for your region. Data for the Midwest and West will be available by the end of 2025.



Part of the Crop Calendar view in the Cover Crop Species Selector

**Explore All Our Cover Crop Tools**

[precisionsustainableag.org/  
decision-support-tools](http://precisionsustainableag.org/decision-support-tools)



A publication of Precision Sustainable Agriculture, an open-source research network.

Info: [esyler@uvm.edu](mailto:esyler@uvm.edu) 3/26/2025