**Oats (Spring & Winters)**

**Plant Characteristics**: Upright annual that grows 2 to 5 feet tall.

**Emergence time**: 5 to 8 days

**Min. germination soil temp**: 38oF

**Annual or Perennial:** Annual

**Salinity Tolerant:** pH 4.5 – 6.5

**Tolerances:** Brief flooding & ponding

**Cool or Warm season:** Cool (mid-April to early October planting)

The following goals for this species are ranked 0-4, 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Very Good, 4=Excellent.

**Nitrogen Source**: 0

**Nitrogen Scavenger**: 3

**Soil Builder**: 3

**Erosion Fighter**: 4

**Lasting Residue**: 2

**Weed Fighter**: 4

**Grazing**: 4

**Forage Harvest Value**: 3

**Recommended Seeding Dates**: April - October

**Planting Depth**: ¾ - 2 inches

**Min. Seeding Rate (incorporated)**: 30 lbs./ac PLS

**Min. Seeding Rate (non-incorporated)**: 45 lbs./ac PLS

**Termination Options**: Till and then apply herbicide

**Other notes**: Winter oats is the least winter hardy of the small grains.

**Resources**:

*Midwest Cover Crops Field Guide*-Midwest Cover Crop Council

*Managing Cover Crops Profitably*-Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

Green Cover Seed-Soil Health





