



Austrian Winter Peas

Austrian winter peas are a low-growing, viney legume. They are quite winter hardy and make an excellent forage, especially when mixed with a small grain like oats or barley. As part of a mix, they provide protein, while grasses add effective fiber. Heavy grazing is not recommended, as plants are sensitive to trampling. Flowers are reddish and seeds are dark. As a cover crop, Austrian Winter Peas can fix 90-150 lbs of nitrogen per acre under good conditions and management.

Must be inoculated with pea/vetch inoculant.



Photo by Tom Stickle

At A Glance

- Very winter hardy
- Plant on well-drained soil
- Recommended in a mix with oats or spring barley or triticale to add effective fiber
- Grows best in cool weather
- Versatile as either a forage or a cover crop

Best Uses

Haylage, baleage, green manure/cover crop

Establishment

Seeding Rate: 60-100 lbs/A

Seeding Depth: 3/4" - 1", Large box

Seeding Dates: Early spring or late summer (1-2 weeks before barley planting dates)



1828 Freedom Rd.
Suite 101
Lancaster, PA 17601
(717) 687-6224

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