



CARGO Mix

A cover crop mix of oats, annual ryegrass, and crimson clover. It is a superb cover crop for southern Pennsylvania (south of I-78) and further south because the crimson clover is less winter hardy and both the crimson clover and annual ryegrass will over-winter well in these locations. The benefit of **crimson clover** is that it flowers early and will fix nitrogen earlier in the spring than other legumes. **Annual ryegrass** has very extensive root growth and improves soil structure better than cereal grains. The **oats** in the mix will grow rapidly in the late summer/early fall of the year, providing quick ground cover to hold soil and smother weeds. The fast oat growth also provides quick nutrient scavenging. The oats winter kill, but act as a nurse crop for the other components, and the oat residue provides a buffer over the winter. The annual ryegrass and crimson clover will be an overwintering grass/legume combination.

Cargo makes an excellent feed as well, with high sugars, digestible fiber, and protein that come from the balance of grasses and legumes (see data on next page). It will not yield quite as well as a straight stand of oats, but it is ideal for dual cover crop/forage use with its combination of diversity, forage quality, and soil improvement qualities.

If the mix is planned for fall forage use, plant in August at heavier seeding rates (up to 130 lbs/A). In spring, cut annual ryegrass and crimson clover for baleage (mid to late April).

- Good mix to prevent erosion—ryegrass and clover overwinter
- A nutrient catch crop, nutrient scavenger, and nitrogen fixer
- Annual ryegrass's deep roots break up soil compaction, add organic matter, and scavenge nutrients

For grazing use - Spring planting or late summer planting.

Planted in early spring (as soon as you can get the drill into the ground), this will be ready to graze in about 60 to 70 days, depending on growing conditions. Plant at about 130 lbs/acre if you intend to graze Cargo.

This mix can also be planted in the late summer and grazed in the fall or early winter.

Be sure to inoculate for best clover nitrogen fixation. Use 'crimson clover' type inoculant.



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High Energy Forages and Soil Building Cover Crops

At A Glance

- Grass-legume winter cover for Mid-Atlantic and South
- Prevents erosion
- Nutrient catch crop, deep root system
- Weed suppression
- Cover crop and/or forage use—potential for fall and spring cutting or grazing with high sugars and quality

Product Formula (by weight)

60% Oats
20% Annual Ryegrass
20% Crimson Clover

Best Uses

Winter cover crop, haylage, baleage, grazing

Establishment

Seeding Rate:

110-130 lbs/A

Seeding Depth: 1/4"-1/2"

Seeding Dates: August through September. Should have 6-8 weeks to get established before frost. Can also be planted in early spring.



Cover Crop/Forage Tech Sheet



CARGO Mix

Winter Annual Cover Crop Mix

	DM Yield	Significance	Tons @	Extended										
	Tons/A	Ranking	65%	Plant Height "	Feekes @ Harvest	CP	ADF	aNDFom	Lignin	NDFd 30 hr	Sugar	NEL	Kd Rate	RFQ
CARGO	1.2	bcdef	3.3	30.3	8.0	22.5	23.7	35.1	1.85	81.0	12.2	0.74	5.25	201
<p>*Red numbers indicate best value in dataset, which included King's fall-planted oats, peas and other cool-season mixes. Quality numbers for this fall planted Cargo are quite favorable.</p>														



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