

Forage Tech Sheet

Pea-Oat Mix

A mixture of forage oats and peas that provides protein and effective fiber as a forage mix and nitrogen and organic matter as a cover crop. Best seeded in late winter/ early spring or late summer, it can also be used as a nurse crop for rapid-growing weed suppression with new perennial seedings.

In a straight stand, the spring oats act as a nurse crop for the peas and later provide some structural support for them.



Pea-Oat Mix used as a nurse crop for a spring seeding of alfalfa

- Pea-Oat Mix makes a good nurse crop for a spring or fall seeding of alfalfa or other legume (at approximately a half seeding rate), as it will grow more rapidly and provide shelter and weed suppression to the slower-growing perennial.
- If a forage cutting is desired, cut and wilt for baleage or haylage when oats reach flag leaf stage for best quality forage.
- In a fall-planted cover crop scenario, the mix winterkills and provides an overwintering killed mulch for weed suppression and organic matter that can be easily no-till planted in the early spring.

The Components:

4010 Peas are a purple flower pea and can be planted in either spring or fall. Grows best in cooler climates. High-protein forage for grazing or haylage/baleage. Alone, the feed value is comparable to alfalfa haylage. Large leaves and excellent palatability.

Proleaf 234 Oats: A leafy forage oat, Proleaf has excellent feed quality and is a medium maturity oat with very good disease resistance. 2-3 days later than Reeves.

Must be inoculated with N-Dure Pea/Vetch Inoculant for optimal legume nitrogen fixation.



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High Energy Forages and Soil Building Cover Crops

At A Glance

- Quick, balanced protein-rich spring or fall forage
- Great nurse crop for spring perennial seedings
- Recycles nutrients and fixes nitrogen in a cover crop situation
- Grass-legume soil builder

Product Formula (by weight)

50% Proleaf 234 Oats

50% 4010 Spring Forage Peas

Best Uses

Spring or fall planted cover crop or forage (haylage, baleage, grazing)

<u>Establishment</u>

Seeding Rate: 100 lbs/A. full rate, 40-60 lbs/A as a nurse crop with alfalfa

Seeding Depth: |" - | |/2"

Seeding Dates: 30-40 days before the first killing frost in the fall, or as soon as ground can be worked in the spring