



# Vetch & Oats

A mixture of oats and hairy vetch. Best seeded in late winter or early spring. Once soil warms up, this mix germinates and grows rapidly for quick spring nitrogen. The spring oats act as a nurse crop and then provides structural support for the hairy vetch. Once established, Vetch & Oats is effective at crowding out weeds and producing lots of biomass. Incorporate or spray prior to planting a summer annual (for example, corn, sorghums, summer vegetables). Best nitrogen production when left to grow until vetch blooms (but before it produces seed).

For a fall planting, oats winterkill, providing a residue that helps insulate and protect the vetch.

If a forage cutting is desired, cut and wilt for baleage or haylage when oats reach flag leaf stage for best quality forage.

- Oats germinate more quickly than the vetch, providing protection against erosion
- If fall planted, oats won't kill until a very hard frost, and typically survive until the ground freezes, leaving winter-killed mulch among the hairy vetch, which has much better winter survivability
- Oat residue helps protect hairy vetch over winter with insulation and stabilizes soil against freeze/thaw damage
- If planted early enough in late summer, can provide a cutting for forage by mid-September, leaving the hairy vetch to regrow before the first killing frost, if climate is warm enough to allow for this length of growing season.
- Fall planted hairy vetch can fix and accumulate 80-130 lbs/A of N by mid-April; approximately half of that is available for the following crop in the first year. If vetch is left to grow until June, 150-200 lbs of nitrogen/A can be produced, again with about half of it becoming available in the first year.

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

## At A Glance

- Quick spring or fall nitrogen producer for following summer annual crops
- Recycles nutrients
- Grass-legume soil builder
- If fall planted, oats winterkill in colder climates

## Product Formula (by weight)

67% Oats

33% Hairy Vetch

## Best Uses

Spring or fall planted cover crop, haylage, baleage, grazing

## Establishment

**Seeding Rate:** 60 lbs/A.

**Seeding Depth:** 3/4" - 1 1/2"

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



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