**Rye (Winter)**

**Plant Characteristics**: Upright annual that grows 3 to 6 feet tall. Cattail like seed heads.

**Emergence time**: 5 to 8 days

**Min. germination soil temp**: 34oF

**Annual or Perennial:** Annual

**Salinity Tolerant:** pH 5.0 – 7.0

**Tolerances:** Drought, shade, flooding, ponding, and cold

**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**: 4

**Soil Builder**: 4

**Erosion Fighter**: 4

**Lasting Residue**: 4

**Weed Fighter**: 4

**Grazing**: 4

**Forage Harvest Value**: 2

**Recommended Seeding Dates**: April - October

**Planting Depth**: ¾ - 1 ½ inch

**Min. Seeding Rate (incorporated)**: 40 lbs./ac PLS

**Min. Seeding Rate (non-incorporated)**: 60 lbs./ac PLS

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

**Other notes**: Makes a thick ground cover if planted in the spring. Don’t confuse with annual ryegrass. Has the ability to dry out wet soils before soybean planting and improves soybean rooting.

**Resources**:

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

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

Green Cover Seed-Soil Health



