

MICHIGAN COVER CROP VARIETY TRIALS, 2020

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Dept. of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences, Michigan State University
1066 Bogue St Rm A286, East Lansing, MI 48824

Michigan State University will accept proprietary varieties, experimental strains, blends, and mixtures of cover crops for evaluation under rainfed conditions in 2020.

1. Description of Trials.

Locations:

- (1) MSU Research Farm, East Lansing
- (2) Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center, Chatham

Data Collected:

- (1) Green ground cover, 30 and 60 days after planting (digital photography)
- (2) Weed control, 30 and 60 days after planting (visual rating)
- (3) Winter survival (visual rating)
- (4) Spring residue cover and weed control (visual rating)
- (5) Ease of termination (visual rating)
- (6) Biomass at frost and termination

Cover crops will be planted in late July to August to simulate a cover crop grown “after wheat.” Four replications will be planted. Plots will be planted into prepared seedbeds using a grain drill at either ¼” or ¾” depth. Drill row spacing is 7.5 inches. Thirty pounds of N will be applied to the site pre-planting. No pest control will be used. All covers that do not winter kill will be terminated with appropriate herbicide in spring.

Michigan State University will conduct the trials in a professional manner but assumes no financial liability for failure to obtain stands or loss of stands due to uncontrollable conditions.

2. Eligibility of Entrants. Any entity may enter varieties or experimental strains in the test provided they have legal permission to do so for protected varieties. This includes private or public developers, dealers, distributors or merchandisers of cover crop varieties, other Agricultural Experiment Stations, non-profit groups, farmer cooperatives, or individuals.

3. Rejection. Any entry may be rejected if:

- (1) The trial is cancelled. A minimum of 10 entries may be required to hold a test at each location.
- (2) There is misrepresentation.
- (3) Seed arrives too late for planting.
- (4) Seed amount is inadequate for plot size.
- (5) Documentation of species/variety proportion in mixtures and blends is not provided.

4. Entry Fee. **\$299.00** per entry per test location entered

Make checks payable to Michigan State University and send to:

Joe Paling, 1066 Bogue Street Rm A486, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824.

Deadline for Entry. Applications, payment, and seed must be received by Joe Paling by **July 1, 2020.**

5. Seed Required. Seed must be received at MSU by July 1, 2020. Seed for released varieties is to be from a commercial source. Arrangements may be made with MSU to deliver commercial seed through local dealers, distributors, or other sources. If germination rates are above 90% the following weights per trial apply:

Wheat, Barley, Rye, Oats, & Triticale – 800 g seed
Annual/Italian Ryegrass – 400 g seed
Teff – 200 g seed
Sorghum, sudangrass, & hybrids – 400 g seed

Clovers, Alfalfa, & Vetches – 400 g seed
Field/Austrian peas – 1600 g seed
Radish – 200 g seed
Turnip, Rape, Kale, Mustard – 200 g seed

All blends & mixtures – 1600 g seed
For species not listed: ask us for amount before sending seed

6. Publication. Each entrant will receive a yearly summary of the data in November, including all released and experimental varieties. Complete test results will be published by Michigan State University Extension and will be posted on the MSU Forage Connection website <http://forage.msu.edu/>.
7. For assistance, contact Joe Paling at paling@msu.edu, cell 517-242-4155, or Kim Cassida at cassida@msu.edu, 517-353-0278.

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Dr. Kim Cassida, Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences,
Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Submit one form for each variety or entry and send to the address below by July 1, 2020 with entry fee of \$299 per variety and location

Seed of the following amounts (per location) should be received by July 1, 2020.

Wheat, Barley, Rye, Oats, & Triticale – 800 g seed
Annual/Italian Ryegrass – 400 g seed
Teff – 200 g seed
Sorghum, sudangrass, & hybrids – 400 g seed

Clovers, Alfalfa, & Vetches – 400 g seed
Field/Austrian peas – 1600 g seed
Radish – 200 g seed
Turnip, Rape, Kale, Mustard – 200 g seed

All blends & mixtures – 1600 g seed
For other species: ask us for amount before sending seed

Marketer

Company _____

Contact _____

Address _____

City, State ZIP _____

Phone/FAX _____

E-Mail address _____

Website _____

Breeder

Company _____

Contact _____

Address _____

City, State ZIP _____

Phone/FAX _____

E-Mail address _____

3. Species _____
4. Name or experimental number of entry _____
5. Is this a released variety? Yes _____ No _____
6. Preferred seeding depth: _____ ¼ inch _____ ¾ inch
7. Description and intended use. Include copy of seed tag.

Components of mixtures and blends

Species/variety name	Proportion by weight (%)	Germination (%)	Germ test date	Purity (%)

Send entry forms and check for \$299 per entry (**payable to Michigan State University/ Cover Crop Trials**) to: Joe Paling, 1066 Bogue Street Rm A286, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. Email: paling@msu.edu, Cell: 517-242-4155.