

Now is the time for Winter Forage Crops!



While the rain has certainly made harvesting difficult in the last few weeks, those fields that are cleared provide a great opportunity to plant fast growing forage crops for livestock.

For those looking to harvest Wheat in 2-3 weeks time, now is also the time to broadcast these seeds into standing stubbles to steal a few weeks' growth.

Please see below for a run down of summer sowing options:

Stubble Turnips - A high protein, fast growing crop that can be sown from now until mid/end of August, these can be sown into a worked seedbed or direct drilled.

Sow at 2kgs per acre. Later sowings can reduce bulb size as we head towards autumn.

<https://www.cotswoldseeds.com/products/1587/stubble-turnip-brassica-rapa>



Forage Rape - This leafy, well known crop takes about 10-12 weeks to establish from sowing. If planted now it will be ready for grazing earlier than Stubble Turnips which is ideal for later autumn grazing.

<https://www.cotswoldseeds.com/products/2085/forage-rape-brassica->



napus#:~:text=Forage%20rape%20is%20a%20quick,provide%20forage%2012%20weeks%20later.

Early Fold Root Mix - A mix of Stubble Turnip and Forage Rape, this mix will be Stubble Turnip dominant. The inclusion of Forage Rape helps to boost the protein level.

<https://www.cotswoldseeds.com/products/817/early-fold-root-mixture>

Hybrid Rape Kale:

Interval - A fast growing crossing of True Kale and Forage Rape, this species takes 10-12 weeks to establish and suits pre-Christmas grazing for sheep or cattle.

<https://www.cotswoldseeds.com/products/2683/interval-hybrid-rape-kale-brassica-napus>

Redstart - This is another Hybrid Rape Kale, with more of the kale parentage, which improves winter hardiness and better regrowth after grazing. It suits post Christmas grazing.

<https://www.cotswoldseeds.com/products/2448/redstart-hybrid-rape-kale-brassica-napus>

Please call us for sowing rates and establishment advice.

We also have a range of arable cover crop and catch crop options, many of which are tailored for specific situations at no extra cost.

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