



DFWT Cover Crop Demonstration Trial

Welcome to the DFWT Cover Crop trial plots. The purpose of these plots is to show how 20 different types of cover crops grow under local conditions. We hope you find it interesting and get some ideas for selecting cover crops in the future.

Plots

1. Spring Barley AB Cattlelac

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 200 lb/ac (*too high, target was 120 lb/ac*)
Seeder used: seed drill

2. Oats Common No. 1

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 121 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill

3. Spring Triticale Common No. 1

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 108 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

4. Winter Wheat Common No. 1

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 121 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

5. Fall Rye Common No. 1

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 108 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

6. Buckwheat Common No. 1

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 108 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

7. Austrian Winter Peas

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 94 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

8. Black Oil Sunflower

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 108 lbs/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag





9. Early Pollinator Mix: 50% faba bean, 25% black oil sunflower, 15% sorghum, 5% phacelia and 5% viviant hybrid turnip

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 54 lb/ac
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Green Cover

10. Late Pollinator Mix: 50% faba beans (by weight), 30% Lavina beardless spring forage barley, 4% purple top turnip, 10% Rushmore spring oats, 6% viviant hybrid turnip

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 108 lbs/ac (*too high, target was ~50*)
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Green Cover

11. Crimson Clover & Oats

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 54 lb/ac
Proportions (mixes): 40 lb/ac oats and 10lb/ac clover
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag (clover)

12. Tillage Radish & Barley

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: 54 lb/ac
Proportions (mixes): 30 lb/ac barley and 4lb/ac radish
Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag (tillage radish)

13. Double Cut Red Clover & Oats

Seeding date: Aug 29th
Seeding rate: ~54 lb/ac
Proportions (mixes): 40 lb/ac oats and 10 lb/ac clover

Seeder used: seed drill
Seed source: Terralink (clover)

14. Vivant Hybrid Turnip

Seeding date: Sep 3rd
Seeding rate: 4.4 lb/ac
Seeder used: Jang Seeder
Seed source: Green Cover

15. Purple Top Turnip

Seeding date: Sep 3rd
Seeding rate: 2.8 lb/ac
Seeder used: Jang Seeder
Seed source: Green Cover

16. Tillage Radish

Seeding date: Sep 3rd
Seeding rate: 11 lb/ac
Seeder used: Jang Seeder
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

17. Sweet Cane Max Forage Sorghum

Seeding date: Sep 3rd
Seeding rate: 20 lb/ac
Seeder used: Jang Seeder
Seed source: Green Cover

18. Sunn Hemp

Seeding date: Sep 3rd
Seeding rate: 22 lb/ac
Seeder used: Jang Seeder
Seed source: Pacific Forage Bag

19. Super Bee Phacelia

Seeding date: Sep 3rd
Seeding rate: 6.8 lb/ac
Seeder used: Jang Seeder
Seed source: Green Cover



20. Faba Beans

Seeding date: Sep 3rd

Seeding rate: 288 lb/ac

Seeder used: Earthway

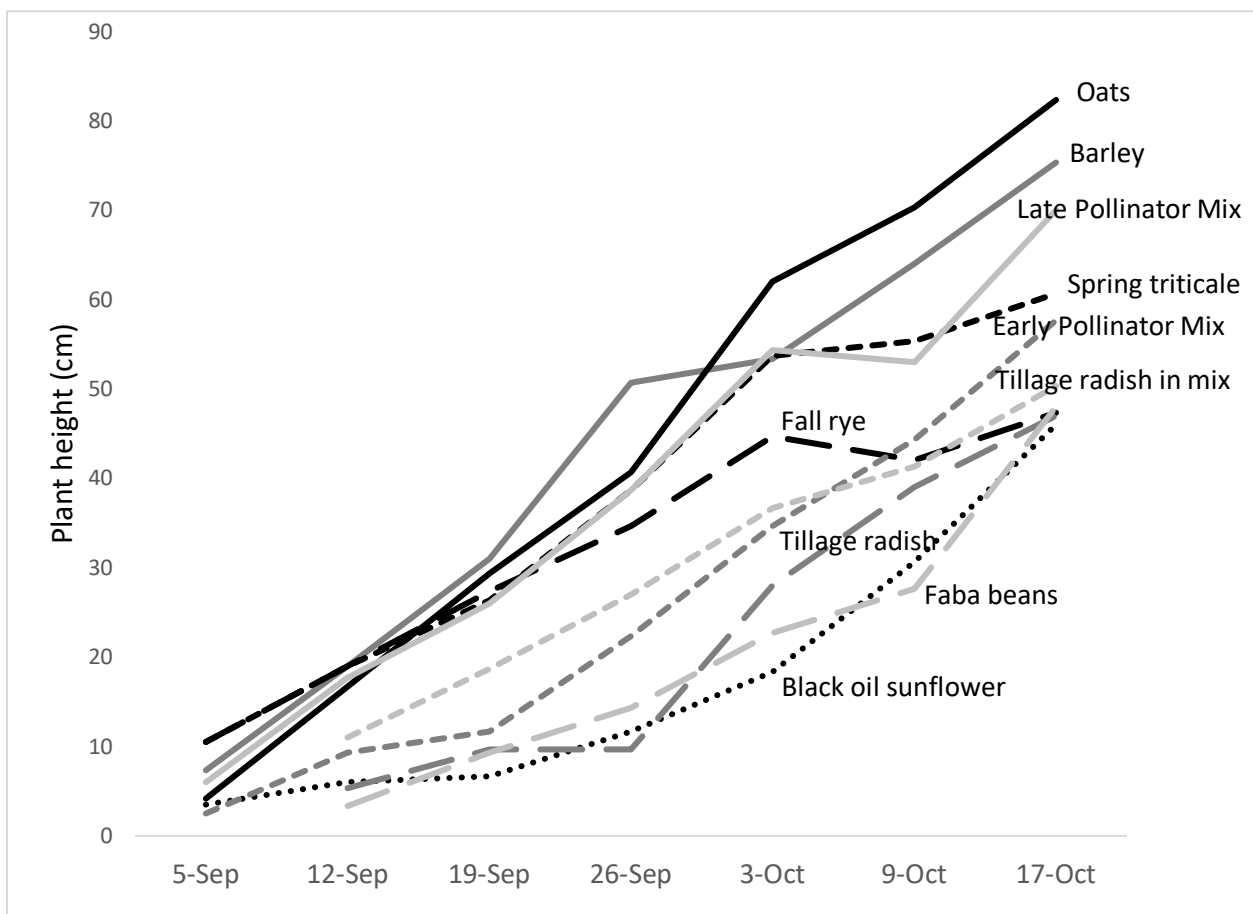
Seed source: Green Cover

We did not include the cost of cover crop seeds because they were bought in small quantities, and so were not reflective of the cost to seed at scale.

Growth Rate Charts

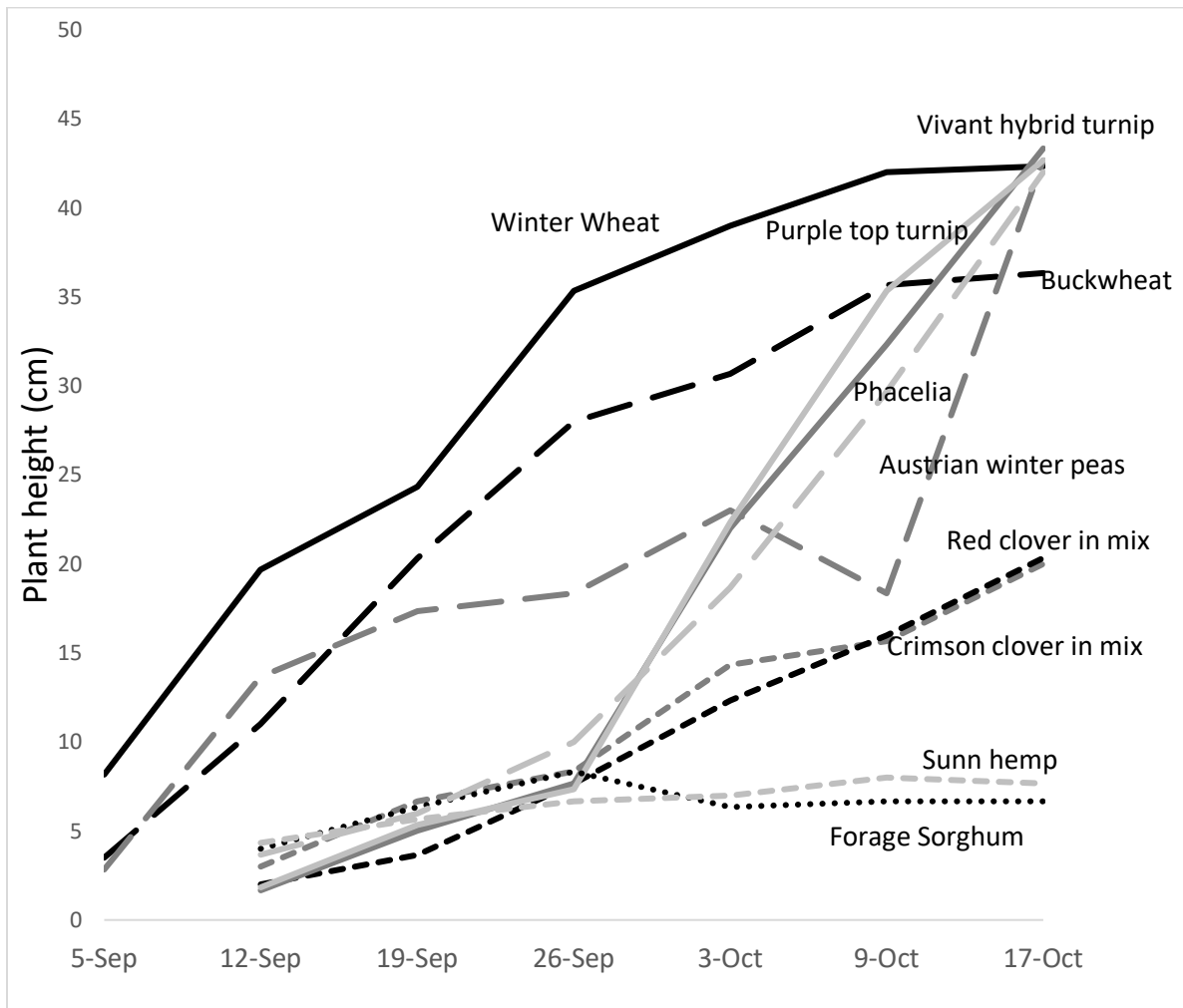
The cover crop plots have been monitored weekly for plant height, percent cover, and weediness. The following charts show the height of the plants each week.

Height of Tallest 10 Cover Crop Varieties Measured Weekly





Height of Shortest 10 Cover Crop Varieties Measured Weekly



Thanks to Zellweger Farms for hosting the trial and helping with seeding. Thanks to Crophorne Farm for the use of the Jang Seeder and to Brent Harris for sharing seed for the pollinator mixes and all the seed sourced from Green Cover.

To learn more about the BC Living Lab, visit www.bclivinglab.ca. This project is funded, in part, by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Agricultural Climate Solution; delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC.