



DAIKON RADISH

Producers may know that cover crops benefit the soil and agricultural operations, but do they know the benefits of each species? Each month a different cover crop species will be highlighted to provide producers with information needed to successfully grow cover crops or alternative forages on their operation.

AT A GLANCE

- Great for reducing soil compaction
- Should be seeded with a small grain or legume
- Increases soil nutrient availability for future crops
- Creates improved water infiltration
- Add them to your favorite Asian dishes for a boost of vitamin C

PLANTING DETAILS

- Plant in early spring to middle of September
- Should be seeded with a small grain or legume to prevent the possibility of soil erosion
- Seeding rates can vary based on mixture and seeding method, should be at least 1 lb/acre

ABOUT DAIKON RADISHES

- Cool season brassica that originated in East Asia
- Crisp, peppery radish high in vitamin C
- Commonly used ingredient in Asian cooking
- Radishes need 60 days of good weather to produce their large, tuberous roots
- Temperatures below 50 will slow growth, and when it reaches below 20, growth stops and the radish will terminate

BENEFITS

Reduce Soil Compaction

The long and wide tuber dig deep in the soil profile, breaking through the hard soil crusts.

Improved Water Infiltration

As the tuber breaks through the soil, the reduced soil compaction improves water infiltration.

Increased Nutrients

The radishes dig deep in the soil, searching for nutrients and making them available for the next crop.

