

RECOMMENDED COVER CROPS FOR ALACHUA COUNTY

By: Gary H. Brinen, Extension Agent - Horticulture

Cover Crop	Optimal Planting Time	Season	Nitrogen Fixer	Nematode Depressor
Caster Bean	June-July	Warm	No	*Yes
Clovers (Crimson, Red)	October - November	Cool	Yes	No
Southern Peas, Cowpeas (Pinkeye Purple Hull, Iron and Clay)	June - July	Warm	Yes	Yes
Hairy Indigo	June - July	Warm	Yes	Yes
Lupine	October - November	Cool	Yes	Yes
Marigold (French)	June - July	Warm	No	Yes
Millet	June - July	Warm	No	Yes
Oats	October - November	Cool	No	Yes
Rye	October - November	Cool	No	Yes
Ryegrass	October - November	Cool	No	Yes
Velvetbean	June - July	Warm	Yes	*Yes
Wheat	October - November	Cool	No	Yes
*Toxic to nematodes				

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Cover crops should be tilled in at least a month before planting. As they decompose they build up organic matter and may provide nitrogen or depress nematode levels.

(Fact Sheet #30)