



TerraLife growing instructions

Seedbed preparation:

All mixes contain small and large-seeded species and a maximum sowing depth of 2 – 3cm is recommended. When preparing the seedbed, it is important to take into account the requirements of the fine seed (friable, well reconsolidated seedbed). To conserve water and suppress competition from volunteer cereals and rape, sow the seed immediately after harvesting using shallow tools. A combination of tillage and drilling (e.g. with a mulch seed drill) is ideal. If adverse weather conditions or availability of labour prevents rapid drilling, suitable soil cultivation measures must be undertaken to prevent volunteer cereals gaining the upper hand. Particular care must be taken with the swath zone following successful straw harvest. Rolls used in combination with spreading and drilling equipment can be very effective. It is important to make sure that the straw is well distributed.

Sowing:

Most multi-species cover crop mixtures, including TerraLife, should be established by the end of August to get optimum establishment, when daylight hours are longer and temperatures are higher. Sowing rates are calculated on the basis of a well-prepared seedbed and optimal sowing times should be closely followed to allow for differences in the competitive behaviour of individual components in the mix. Sowing rates should be increased only in the event of adverse conditions such as delayed drilling, poor seedbed or unfavourable weather conditions.

General cultivation tips:

- If sown too early and under stress conditions (especially drought stress), premature seed formation may occur with some plant species (buckwheat, mustard, oil radish, phacelia). In such cases it is advisable to check growth in good time by chemical or mechanical means to prevent seeds from ripening.
- The growth should definitely not be incorporated when green, because it will make the soil become anaerobic, which could create a plastic-like, blue-grey layer.
- If the mix shows a lot of leafy growth in the autumn, plants should be chopped back and mulched. If growth is still green in the spring, plants should be treated with herbicide.

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The added benefits of TerraLife

TerraLife multi-species cover crop mixtures are the result of many years experience and R&D to meet the needs of modern, intensive agriculture.

TerraLife mixtures offer all kinds of benefits to your soils, including:

- **Increased levels of organic matter levels**
- **Reductions in nutrient losses, making more available to following crops**
- **Improved soil structure, fertility and health throughout the soil profile**
- **Protection from pests and disease**
- **Increased suppression of weeds - recent trials show this results from the use of diverse multi-species mixtures.**
- **Increased soil life - particularly earthworms.**

Earthworms make a valuable contribution to soil fertility

According to Charles Darwin (1882), man must be more grateful for worms than for the plough!

There can be up to 3 tonnes of earthworms/ha, producing around 600 tonnes of worm faeces per annum.

Worm faeces contain approx. five times more nitrogen, seven-times more phosphate and eleven-times more potassium than the normal surrounding earth.

Worm castings contain a high percentage of humus. Humus helps soil particles form into clusters, which create channels for the passage of air and improve its capacity to hold water. (Holcombe et al, 1995)



DSV United Kingdom Ltd.
17 Lynn Road, Downham
Market, Norfolk PE38 9NJ
Phone 01366 388223
info@dsv-uk.co.uk
www.dsv-uk.co.uk



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DSV TerraLife

The special cover crop programme

www.dsv-uk.co.uk



Innovation for
your growth


**Your Soil – Your
Greatest Asset**




For more information please contact:

Kevin Tregunna
Countryside Seeds Limited
07881 804442
kevin@countrysideseeds.com

TerraLife cover crop mixtures for every crop rotation


<div></div>	Composition	Sowing date – latest	Sowing rate – kg/ha	For crop rotations with						Grazing Option	Spring Sowing Option	Preservation of nutrients	Nitrogen Fixing	Penetration of compacted soils	Suitable for late sowing	Suitable for cold sites	Suitable for warm dry sites
				Oilseed rape	Legumes	Potatoes	Sugar Beet	Cereals	Maize								
TerraLife-Rigol DT A strong rooting structure to break down compacted soils. It provides rapid growth, weed suppression and a network of roots throughout the soil profile.	Buckwheat, Linseed, Bristle Oat, Deeptill Radish, Serradella, Sunflower, Common Vetch, Persian Clover, Phacelia	end of Aug	20 – 22	(X)	X			X	X			++	+	+++	++	++	++
TerraLife-N-Fixx A balanced mixture of legumes and non-legumes to fix nitrogen and leave behind a good tilth. It also enriches the soil with humus and improves the soils health for the following crop particularly in intensive crop rotations.	Field Pea, Squarrose Clover, Persian Clover, Serradella, Phacelia, Niger, Buckwheat, Sunflower, Common Vetch	end of Aug	40 – 45	X				X	X		X	++	+++	++	+	++	+++
TerraLife-VitaMaxx DT An ideal fast growing and legume free mixture for livestock farmers to get optimum utilisation and conservation of nutrients from manure.	Bristle Oat, Buckwheat, Linseed, Phacelia, Deeptill Radish, False Flax, Abyssinian Mustard, White Mustard, Sunflower	1st week of Sep	20 – 25		X			X	X			+++	+	+	+++	+++	++
TerraLife-BetaMaxx DT A mixture specially formulated for sugar beet rotations which has been proven to reduce the incidence of forked roots and protect against pathogens.	Egyptian Clover, Deeptill Radish, Field Pea, Phacelia, Niger, Bristle Oat, Common Vetch	end of Aug	30 – 35	(X)			X	X	X	X	X	++	+++	++	++	+++	+++
TerraLife-BetaSola Specially designed for the reduction of nematodes in sugar beet and potato rotations, which also improves soil structure. With three different fodder radishes, it offers a long growing window and therefore greater activity against nematodes.	Egyptian Clover, Three Varieties Of Nematode Resistant Fodder Radish, Niger, Bristle Oat, Common Vetch	end of Aug	35 – 40		X	X	X	X	X	X		+++	++	++	++	+++	++

The suffix DT means the mixture contains our Deeptill Radish




Using the correct cover crop mixture

+




Sowing the mixture by the end of August (the earlier the better)

+



Having good biomass above and below the ground

+



Will result in higher populations of worms and increased organic matter*
*over time and being used for multiple years

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Better working soils

- Less compaction
- More efficient utilisation of water
- Improved nutrient retention
- Reduced erosion from weathering
- Reduced establishment costs to following crop
- Potential increase in yields over time

If a certain variety is unavailable it will be replaced with equivalents.
(X) not to be used in soils effected with clubroot.

Suitability

- + = Low
- ++ = Medium
- +++ = High