

BEETS & GREENS INSTRUCTIONS:

Seedbed Preparation

1. Select a site with medium to well-drained soil. If possible, avoid areas that hold excess moisture.
2. For optimum results perform a laboratory soil test in advance of planting to determine lime and fertilizer requirements. If using Whitetail Institute's laboratory, check the Beets & Greens box on submittal form. If using another lab, test for brassicas. Whitetail Institute's soil test submittal forms can be purchased and downloaded at: <https://whitetailinstitute.com/soil-test-kit-download-version/>
3. Add the amount of lime recommended in your soil-test report. If no soil test is available, then add a minimum of 1 ton of lime per 1/2 acre. For best results, disk or till the lime thoroughly into the top few inches of the seedbed. If possible, lime should be added several months in advance of planting. **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP! MAKING SURE SOIL pH IS OPTIMUM (6.5-7.0) IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN CONTROL TO ENSURE SUCCESSFUL PLANTING!**
4. Disk or till to prepare a good seedbed. If possible, perform this step two weeks before planting to help reduce the amount of weed seed that might germinate.
5. Add the fertilizer recommended in your soil-test report to the seedbed. If no soil test is available, then add 200 lbs. of 17-17-17, or equivalent, fertilizer per 1/2 acre.
6. Lightly disk or till the fertilizer into the top few inches of the seedbed.
7. Smooth and firm the seedbed with a drag or cultipacker. For the best results, complete all steps in the order shown. Stay within the planting dates for your area as shown on the map. Cutting corners can negatively affect your results!

Planting

1. Broadcast the seed at a rate of about 3 pounds per 1/2 acre.
Tip: For Using Shoulder-type Seeders: Set the gap in the seeder so it looks like some seed will come out, but not enough. Put one half of the seed required for the plot into the spreader and try to cover the entire seedbed with it. Leave about 12 feet between each pass. Then, repeat the process with the other half of the seed, but this time putting the seed out from a different direction by walking across your first path.
 2. **DO NOT COVER THE SEED!** If you used a drag to smooth the seedbed before seeding: Do nothing further after you put the seed out. The seed will naturally fall into good contact with the soil. If you used a cultipacker to smooth the seedbed before seeding: Cultipack the seedbed again one time after putting the seed out to help press the seed into good contact with the soil.
 3. Second fertilization (for best results): If possible, fertilize 30-45 days after germination, but this time with 50 pounds of 34-0-0 or equivalent high-Nitrogen fertilizer per ½ acre. **Do not apply fertilizer when plants are damp!**
- Optional Tip for Monitoring browsing Pressure:** After planting, place a small wire basket over a portion of your planting so that wildlife cannot browse inside it. Watch the deference inside and outside the basket to gauge browsing pressure.

Grass Control

If grass competition is heavy during the first few weeks after planting, spray your Beets & Greens plot(s) with Arrest Max grass herbicide and SureFire Crop Oil Plus.