

**Table 13. Planting rate and date for forages in Wisconsin**

Rates are based on normal seedbeds and on normal size, good quality seed. Rates used will vary greatly depending on desired stand, expected mortality, emerging ability, seed weight, seed germination, seedbed condition, depth of planting, and planting equipment. Rates are for pure live seed (PLS); if PLS (% germination x % purity) is less than 90%, adjust seeding rate accordingly.

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Bushel weight (lb)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Seeds/pound (number)</b>	<b>Seeding rate (lb/acre)</b>	<b>Seeding date<sup>b</sup></b>
<b>Alfalfa</b> alone	60	199,000	12–15	Early spring or late summer
with grass			8	
<b>Barley</b>	48	14,300	60–85	Early spring
<b>Big bluestem</b>	—	150,000	10	Late May through June
<b>Birdsfoot trefoil</b> alone	60	372,000	8	Early spring or late summer
with grass			6	
<b>Bluegrass</b>	14	2,200,000	15	Early spring or late summer
<b>Bromegrass</b> alone	14	136,000	16	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			3–6	
<b>Canarygrass</b> , annual	50	58,000	30	Early spring
<b>Clover</b> , alsike in mixtures	60	653,000	3	Early spring to August 10
kura	60	230,000	6	Early spring
red alone	60	252,000	10	Early spring to August 10
red with grass	60	252,000	6–8	Early spring to August 10
white in mixtures	60	784,000	1–2	Early spring to August 10
<b>Crownvetch</b>	—	140,000	5–10	Late April through June
<b>Fescue, meadow</b> , alone	24	230,000	15	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			6	
<b>Fescue, tall</b> , alone	24	230,000	15	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			6	
<b>Fieldpea</b> alone	60	3,000	180	Early spring
with 1½ to 2 bushels of oats			50	
<b>Indiangrass</b>	—	170,000	10	Late April through June
<b>Kale</b>	—	140,000	4	Early spring to July 1
<b>Millet</b> , barnyard	35	155,000	20	June 1 to July 15
foxtail	48	218,000	15	June 1 to July 15
pearl	—	85,000	20	June 1 to July 15
proso	56	65,000	20	June 1 to July 15
<b>Oats</b> alone	32	16,200	80	Early spring
seeded with alfalfa			32–48	
<b>Orchardgrass</b> alone	14	653,000	10	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			2–4	
<b>Rape forage</b>	50	145,000	4	Early spring to July 1
<b>Reed canarygrass</b> alone	46	526,000	6	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			5	
<b>Ryegrass</b> , Italian	24	227,000	20–25	Early spring
perennial	24	230,000	20–25	Early spring
in mixtures			2	Early spring
<b>Sorghum</b> 18- to 40-inch rows	56	15,000	10–12	May 20 to June 5 for grain
6- to 14-inch rows			15	
<b>Soybeans</b> for forage	60	2,500	90	Late spring to July 1
<b>Sudangrass</b> 18- to 40-inch rows	40	44,000	20	May 20 to June 10
6- to 14-inch rows			20–30	
<b>Sweet clover</b>	60	240,000	12	Early spring
<b>Switchgrass</b>	28	370,000	6	Late May through June
<b>Tall fescue</b> alone	25	229,000	10	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			4	
<b>Timothy</b> alone	45	1,234,000	8	Early spring or late summer
in mixtures			2–4	
<b>Turnip</b>	—	190,000	1.5	April to August 1
<b>Vetch, hairy</b>	60	21,000	20	Early spring
<b>Winter rye or wheat</b>	56	15,000	60	September

<sup>a</sup> U.S. legal if established. If not established, weight given is that most widely accepted in the United States.

<sup>b</sup> For seeding date ranges, early dates are for southern Wisconsin and late dates are for northern Wisconsin.