



SPRING/SUMMER DEER FOOD PLOTS, PLANTING RATES, DATES & OTHER INFORMATION

Listed in rough order of preference, value to deer, ease of planting, ease of management, expense, and ability to withstand overgrazing by deer

	TYPE (ANNUAL OR PERENNIAL)	SPECIES	BROADCAST RATE/ACRE (DRILLED =HALF)	ADAPTATION	PLANTING DATES (Don't jump the gun!)	TREATMENT/COMMENTS (for fertilizer and lime required, see footnotes)
1	SPRING ANNUAL MIX	Tall Grain Sorghum	5 lbs/acre	NORTH & SOUTH	After danger of frost	Let stand through following fall/winter & deer will eat seedheads. Addition of legume improves quality & value. Inoculate legumes.
		Buckwheat	15 lbs/acre		April to June	
		Soybeans	25 lbs/acre			
		Cowpeas	25 lbs/acre			
2	Early SPRING ANNUAL MIX	Oats	50 lbs/acre	NORTH & SOUTH	March South	Clovers will last through late summer, fall, or even into year two. Oats may reseed in late summer.
		Red clover	10 lbs/acre		April North	
		Arrowleaf clover	10 lbs/acre			
3	SPRING ANNUAL	Cowpeas or Soybeans	50-75lbs/acre	NORTH & SOUTH	After danger of frost April to June	Very sensitive to overgrazing by deer. Plant only in large fields, or mixed with grain sorghum to hide.
4	SPRING ANNUAL	Aeschynomene (also called Deer-vetch or Jointvetch)	20 lbs/acre	SOUTH	After danger of frost April to June	Stand is killed by first frost in fall. Can be mixed with 5/lbs/acre sorghum. Seed is expensive in recent years.
		Alyceclover	10 lbs/acre			
5	SPRING ANNUAL MIX	Aeschynomene	10 lbs/acre	SOUTH	After danger of frost	Subject to overgrazing in seedling stage Stand is killed by first frost. Can be mixed with 5 lbs/acre sorghum.
		Alyceclover	10 lbs/acre		April to June	
6	SPRING ANNUAL	Grain Sorghum	10 lbs/acre	NORTH & SOUTH	After danger of frost April to June	Let stand through following fall/winter. More valuable mixed with legumes.
7	Early SPRING PERENNIAL	Alfalfa	35 lbs/acre	NORTH	April or May	Very difficult and expensive to grow and manage. Not for Deep South
8	SPRING ANNUAL	RR Corn	10 lbs/acre	NORTH & SOUTH	After danger of frost	Excellent deer forage but difficult and expensive to grow. Need big fields.
		RR Soybeans	30 lbs/acre		April to May	

*Get soil test and follow recommendations. In lieu of soil test, apply 1-2 tons/acre lime and 300 lbs/acre 19-19-19 (or 350 lbs/acre 15-15-15) at planting.

Do not skimp on fertilizer!