

TIMOTHY

SEED PRODUCTION

Description & Adaptation

Timothy is a medium-lived, cool season perennial bunchgrass with a fibrous root system. The crop performs very well under cool, moist conditions. Timothy is a commonly used forage ingredient in most hay and pasture mixes. It is also grown in pure stands producing high quality hay that is consumed domestically and exported globally.

Field Selection

Timothy is a low input crop that grows well on poorly drained, low producing soils. Timothy is fairly tolerant to flooding in the spring. The field must be free of residual herbicides such as Edge™, Treflan™ and others. It is important to review the herbicide history of the field before planting. Clean fields are important to minimize weeds at harvest and earn top prices. Glyphosate should be applied in the years prior to seeding to help eliminate perennial weeds.

Weed and Disease Control

Herbicides are available to control broadleaf weeds. However, there are no herbicides available for control grassy weeds. Once established, timothy provides significant crop competition.

Production Benefits

- Multiple crop years reduce workload during planting season
- Straw has relatively good feed value for livestock.
- Increases organic matter
- Break-crop effect benefits annual crops in rotations
- Guaranteed minimum contract pricing with opportunity to capture market upside
- Excellent profitability track record



Overview

Seeding Rate	2 lbs/acre
Seeding Depth	Max ½ inch
Row Spacing	7 - 15 inches
Seed Yield	200 - 600 lbs/acre
Seed Production Life	3+ years
Companion Crop	Wheat, oats, flax, none
Soil pH	5.5 – 8.0
Fertility	Low fertilizer requirements
Swath Timing	Mid August
Harvest Timing	5-7 days after swathing
Seed Moisture	Dry at 10%

<https://brettyoung.ca/seed-production/timothy>
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