FORAGE & GRAIN CROPS

Buster Tillage Radish

Compaction buster with good forage production

Raphanus sativus

Achieves rapid ground cover providing a quick, highly palatable grazing feed for sheep and cattle. Draws up subsoil nitrogen and nutrients, green manure biomass, aerates soil, breaks down compacted soil.



ABOUT THIS VARIETY

Tillage Radish is an excellent cover crop. It produces high levels of biomass, especially above the surface. It quickly grows a closed canopy almost a full month ahead of oats and rye cover crops and effectively blocks out the sun, aiding in weed suppression during the winter and resulting in fewer weeds in the spring.

This successful brassica was bred specifically for its large tuber taproot which assists in the breaking up of compacted layers in the soil profile. It also draws, stores and supplies nutrients up to the surface layers when decomposition occurs, producing more root mass than mustard crops or oil seed radish and two to four times the number of roots as cereals or grasses.

The size and depth of the root system on radish effectively aerates the soil, alleviating soil compaction, promoting better water infiltration and enabling it to “mine” nitrogen and other nutrients, that might otherwise leach down and out of the soil, back to the surface where spring crops will benefit. Radish produces very palatable feed, appropriate for cattle and sheep.

QUICK FACTS

TYPE & PERSISTENCY
Annual

MIN RAINFALL
400 mm+

SOIL & PH
Soil range: Sand · pH 5+ ($CaCl_2$)

SOWING RATE
5–8 kg/ha General

END USE
Grazing, Cover crop, Green manure

LIVESTOCK
Beef, Sheep

KEY ATTRIBUTES

- ✓ Large taproot breaks down and aerates compacted soil
- ✓ Rapid ground cover
- ✓ High biomass for green manure
- ✓ Draws up subsoil nitrogen and nutrients
- ✓ Quick, highly palatable grazing for sheep and cattle
- ✓ Breaks down quickly, improving soil properties

PLANTING & GRAZING NOTES

Maximum fodder and tuber development occurs when sown in Jan/Feb, although radish can also be sown in autumn and spring to provide quick feed options. Radish may be drilled, broadcast or aerially seeded; drilling is recommended for the best results. Sowing depth 0.75 to 2.5cm. Seed will germinate in three to four days. Once established, ensure plants are not prone to pulling to allow the root structure to establish a strong hold before first grazing. First grazing in 5-6 weeks, with 2-3 grazings possible prior to maturity (10-12 weeks). Strategic grazing can also delay maturity.

STAND LIFE

Short-term fodder option (10-12 weeks) with first grazing in 5-6 weeks and 2-3 grazings possible prior to maturity.

HOW IT'S SOLD

FORM	PACK
Bare	25 kg
Bare	20 kg