FORAGE & GRAIN CROPS

Winfred Forage Brassica

All rounder forage and companion species

Brassica napus

A versatile, early maturing forage brassica, an outstanding option for cheap feed, suited to a wide range of soil types and environmental conditions, stock classes and sowing times. Good drought and frost tolerance with excellent regrowth potential with flexibility to perform well through summer and carry later into the season as winter feed is required.



QUICK FACTS

- TYPE & PERSISTENCY: Annual
- MIN RAINFALL: 500 mm+
- SOWING RATE: 3–4 kg/ha Monoculture, 1–2 kg/ha In a mix
- TOLERANCES: Drought, Frost
- END USE: Grazing, Break crop
- LIVESTOCK: Beef, Dairy, Sheep

ABOUT THIS VARIETY

Winfred Forage Brassica is a cross between turnip and kale. It has the potential for 2 to 4 grazings between early summer and late winter, and can be grazed 10 to 12 weeks after sowing.

Winfred Forage Brassica is a good companion species and can be sown with ryegrass to provide quick feed after sowing. It can also be sown with other herbs and clovers – including Shirohie Millet, Tonic Plantain and Choice Chicory.

In recent years, producers have seen the benefits of autumn sown Winfred Forage Brassica as a valuable feed source leading into winter, with the bonus of having a brassica in their cereal cropping rotation in place of canola. Due to the potential of an earlier first grazing, Winfred Forage Brassica has the ability to be grazed multiple times from autumn through to spring. This differs from many existing rapes which often have longer ripening requirements, and are grazed later providing less opportunity for multiple regrowth periods.

KEY ATTRIBUTES

- ✓ Suits a wide range of soils, stock classes and sowing times
- ✓ Potential for 2 to 4 grazings, early summer to late winter
- ✓ Excellent regrowth after grazing
- ✓ A cross between turnip and kale
- ✓ An outstanding option for cheap feed
- ✓ Low propensity to bolting

PLANTING & GRAZING NOTES

Recommended sowing time is July to September or February to May – 12 weeks before feed is required. Sow into a fine, firm, moist seedbed at 1 to 2cm planting depth, conventional or direct-drilled, with or without Italian ryegrass, herbs and clovers. Use prior to pasture renovation or as a cereal break crop; ensure livestock have access to a clean water supply and a run-off paddock nearby, and address weed and fertility issues. Ensure the crop has reached maturity (10 to 12 weeks) before grazing. Introduce stock to the crop gradually and supplement the diet with another feed source – animal intake for brassicas should not be greater than 33% for dairy cows, 70% for beef cattle, and lambs can consume up to 100%. Monitor animal health.

DISEASE & PEST RESISTANCE

Aphid tolerance medium. There is variation in resistance to cabbage aphid depending on infestation, stage of growth and level of regrowth. All varieties are susceptible to green peach aphid and false cabbage aphid. Under fertile conditions many rapes do not suffer the extent of aphid damage if the plant is strong and well fertilised; stressed plants are more vulnerable to aphid attack.

STAND LIFE

Annual, early maturing forage brassica with high regrowth after grazing and a low propensity to bolting.

HOW IT'S SOLD

FORM	PACK
Bare	25 kg