



Cover Crops

INTRODUCTION

Cover crops are crops planted for the purpose of covering the soil. They prevent soil erosion, improve soil health, enhance water availability, smother weeds, help control pests and diseases, increase biodiversity, and bring a lot of other benefits. However, each cover crop can only provide you limited benefits hence the idea of a cover crop mix.

A cover crop mix is a mixture of different cover crop seeds planted in a pattern that mimics wild weeds' growing pattern. This mix gives a farmer the advantages of reaping many benefits at same time.

Our Cover Crop mix is:

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|--------------------|------|
| i. Pearl Millet | 10Kg |
| ii. Sorghum | 5Kg |
| iii. Sunhemp black | 10Kg |
| iv. Sunflower | 5Kg |

REMEMBER !

Microbes are needed to:

- Make nutrients available to plants
- Protecting the roots / plants
- Break down old chemicals
(e.g. Herbicides)
- Feeding other soil life (e.g. earthworms)
which make the soil much more fertile



Advantages of Mixed cover crops

1. Diversity of roots

Some roots will be shallow, others deep while others will fix nitrogen. Where the roots die, new roots will grow easier down the old root tunnels hence improving infiltration of water and air into the soil.

2. Improve soil structure

The organic material when the cover crop dies (roots & trash) improves soil structure. More importantly, as roots grow, they squeeze out sugars that feed and cultivate microbes. The sugars also glue the soil particles together, improving the soil structure.

3. Improves soil life diversity

The more different roots there are, the more different microbes will be catered for, causing all types of microbes to be available in the soil.

4. Keeps soil cool

With our harsh African sun, the cover on top of the soil keeps the soil cool. Improving the life span of soil life including earthworms

5. Conserves moisture

By covering the soil, evaporation of soil moisture will be slowed down, hence prolonging soil life.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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