

4010 Forage Pea

Key Features

Forage peas will increase the protein content of cereal crop forages. Peas are often grown with oats or forage barley to improve the nutritional value and yield. This mixture is harvestable as hay or silage.

Split Info

Forage, Grain, or Cover Crop

Split Info

Spring

Establishment

A grass crop the year prior to planting is ideal, and non-legume broadleaf crops are acceptable. Avoid previous year legume crops to limit disease pressure. Peas germinate at 40 degrees Fahrenheit; therefore, they should be the first seeded crop when your fields are ready

Fed as a Grain

Rarely do we see a feed grain that has the nutrient density, palatability, excellent digestibility, and positive effect on animal performance as field peas. This grain legume is unique in that it contains the energy of corn grain with nearly 3 times the protein. Peas are versatile as they can be included in virtually all livestock rations including poultry, swine, horses and ruminants. Peas work very well as a protein and energy source in feedlot diets with improved efficiency of grain observed. When fed to finishing cattle, peas included in the ration at a minimum of 10% for the last 75 days insure that the beef is as juicy, tender, and flavorful as possible.

Management Keys

Harvest peas at the flat pod stage, after flowering is complete. The ideal rotational frequency of peas is every four to five years.



Seeding Rate

Drilled	50-80#
Precision Planting	20-30#
Broadcast	90-100#

Seeding Depth

Plant 2-3"

Characteristics

N Fixation	4
Forage Quality	4
Soil Builder	1
Winter Survivability	0

Scale 1-5 (1=Poor, 5=Excellent)

