

German Millet

Key Features

German Millet is a fine stemmed, leafy millet that can be ready to cut in as little as 60 days from planting. This crop is drought and heat tolerant. German Millet can be grown on very little water; however, greater tonnage will be produced with greater water availability. Lower yield potential compared to newer varieties and sorghum-sudan hybrids.

Uses

Baleage
Dry Hay

Planting Time

Late Spring- Early Summer

Establishment

Higher seeding rates will produce finer millet stems. Seeding can be effectively done with a grain drill. Seed in late spring to early summer when soils have reached 60°. Soil temperatures need to be rising especially during germination and early development. Check soil temperatures early in the morning when soils are the coolest for the day.

Management Keys

German Millet can be cut and wilted while in a vegetative growth stage. Mechanically harvest when plants reach late boot stage and early seedhead emergence.

Nitrogen applications pre-plant can be up to 60 lbs of nitrogen per acre. 30-50 lbs per acre can be applied for cutting after. Millet responds to fertility and a balanced fertilizer is recommended. Top dressing manure is possible at lighter rates.

There are no prussic acid concerns with millet in the fall after frosts. This reduces fall management stress. When plant growth is slowed or stopped by stress conditions nitrite can accumulate in the plant, which is toxic to many classes of livestock. Delay grazing or harvest as long as possible to allow the plant to convert the nitrates.



Characteristics

Drought Tolerance	5
Wet Soil	5
Seeding Vigor	4
Baleage	4
Silage	3
Grazing	3
Dry Hay	4
Palatability	3

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

Seeding Rate

► 20-25 lbs/acre, up to 50 lbs per acre for dry hay

Seeding Rate

¼-1/2" into firm, clod-free seedbed

