

THE BEST PRACTICES IN OATS PRODUCTION

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The Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station recommends on this page the practices which will increase the acre yield and quality of the oats crop, reduce the cost per bushel, lengthen the seasonal use of the land, and react favorably upon soil fertility.

Oats After Corn

Double-disk the land twice, and harrow. Drill late in February or early in March, using re-cleaned, smut-free seed of the Columbia or Fulghum variety, at the rate of 6 to 8 pecks per acre. Oats thus sown are better than wheat as a nurse crop for alfalfa, clovers, and grass, if 75 to 150 pounds of 20% superphosphate are applied per acre.

Oats on Korean Lespedeza Sod

Double-disk and harrow land that has been in lespedeza the previous year. Follow other instructions given above. After oats have been harvested, the volunteer lespedeza may be pastured for the rest of the season. If the land is productive the lespedeza may first be cut for hay about July 20 and then pastured. Or after the cutting of hay, the lespedeza may be allowed to grow for an October seed harvest. In either case the land may go back to oats next spring and the oats-lespedeza rotation continued as long as desired.