

# TerraLife – the special cover crop programme

TerraLife cover crop mixtures were developed to break down soil between crops and improve soil fertility and health. All mixtures include a proportion of quick-growing species to effectively suppress weed growth. The range of species guarantees good biodiversity and maximum variation in root development to ensure good soil penetration.



## TerraLife cover crop mixtures for every crop rotation

	TerraLife	Composition	Sowing date – latest	Sowing rate – kg/ha	For crop rotations with						Grazing Option	Spring Sowing Option	Preservation of nutrients	Nitrogen Fixing	Penetration of compacted soils	Suitable for late sowing	Suitable for cold sites	Suitable for warm dry sites
					Oilseed rape	Legumes	Potatoes	Sugar Beet	Cereals	Maize								
Combinable Crop Mixtures	<b>TerraLife-Rigol DT</b> A strong rooting structure to break down compacted soils. It provides rapid growth, weed suppression and a network of roots throughout the soil profile.	Buckwheat, Linseed, Bristle Oat, Deeptill Radish, Serradella, Sunflower, Common Vetch, Egyptian Clover, Phacelia, Niger, False Flax, Abyssinian Mustard	end of Aug	20 – 22	(X)	X			X	X			++	+	+++	++	++	++
	<b>TerraLife-N-Fixx</b> A balanced mixture of legumes and non-legumes to fix nitrogen and leave behind a good tilth. It also enriches the soil with humus and improves the soils health for the following crop particularly in intensive crop rotations.	Field Pea, Squarrose Clover, Persian Clover, Serradella, Phacelia, Niger, Buckwheat, Sunflower, Common Vetch, Linseed	end of Aug	40 – 45	X				X	X		X	++	+++	++	+	++	+++
	<b>TerraLife-VitaMaxx DT</b> An ideal fast growing and legume free mixture for livestock farmers to get optimum utilisation and conservation of nutrients from manure.	Bristle Oat, Buckwheat, Linseed, Phacelia, Deeptill Radish, False Flax, Abyssinian Mustard, White Mustard, Sunflower	1st week of Sep	20 – 25		X			X	X			+++	+	+	+++	+++	++
Root Crop Mixtures	<b>TerraLife-BetaMaxx DT</b> A mixture specially formulated for sugar beet rotations which has been proven to reduce the incidence of forked roots and protect against pathogens.	Egyptian Clover, Deeptill Radish, Field Pea, Phacelia, Niger, Bristle Oat, Common Vetch, Linseed, Persian Clover, Serradella, Abyssinian Mustard	end of Aug	30 – 35	(X)			X	X	X	X	X	++	+++	++	++	+++	+++
	<b>TerraLife-BetaSola</b> Specially designed for the reduction of nematodes in sugar beet and potato rotations, which also improves soil structure. With three different fodder radishes, it offers a long growing window and therefore greater activity against nematodes.	Egyptian Clover, Three Varieties Of Nematode Resistant Fodder Radish, Niger, Bristle Oat, Common Vetch	end of Aug	35 – 40		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	+++	++	++	++	+++	++
	<b>TerraLife-SolaRigol DT</b> A mixture for potato rotations which quickly shades the soil, provides good rooting and increases biodiversity.	Linseed, Bristle Oat, Persian Clover, Niger, Field Pea, Common Vetch, Serradella, Egyptian Clover, Deeptill Radish, Abyssinian Mustard	end of Aug	30 – 35	(X)		X		X	X	X	X	++	++	+++	+	++	+++

If a certain variety is unavailable it will be replaced with equivalents.  
(X) not to be used in soils effected with clubroot.

**Suitability**  
+ = Low    ++ = Medium    +++ = High

## The added benefits of TerraLife

TerraLife multi-species cover crop mixtures are the result of many years experience and R&D to meet the needs of modern, intensive agriculture.

TerraLife mixtures offer all kinds of benefits to your soils, including:

- Increased levels of organic matter levels
- Reductions in nutrient losses, making more available to following crops
- Improved soil structure, fertility and health throughout the soil profile
- Protection from pests and disease
- Increased suppression of weeds – recent trials show this results from the use of diverse multi-species mixtures.
- Increased soil life – particularly earthworms.

### Earthworms make a valuable contribution to soil fertility

According to Charles Darwin (1882), man must be more grateful for worms than for the plough!

There can be up to 3 tonnes of earthworms/ha, producing around 600 tonnes of worm faeces per annum.

Worm faeces contain approx. five times more nitrogen, seven-times more phosphate and eleven-times more potassium than the normal surrounding earth.

Worm castings contain a high percentage of humus. Humus helps soil particles form into clusters, which create channels for the passage of air and improve its capacity to hold water. (Holcombe et al, 1995)

