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## Technical Bulletin

### **OPT (Oat/Pea/Trit) MIX**

#### **Laker Forage Oat/ Arvika Forage Peas/ Trical® 2700 Forage Triticale**

- 30% Forage Oats + 30% Trical 2700 Triticale + 40% Arvika Forage Peas
- Optional mix taking advantage of the yield of forage oats and the higher protein level of the triticale and forage peas.
- Seeding rates: 90-110#/acre when used as a nurse crop for underseeded legume.  
120-125#/acre when seeded alone
- Harvest is generally 55-60 days after planting, mid to late boot stage of the triticale.
- Overall harvest window for **OPT Mix** to provide maximum quality forage is 5-7 days, slightly shorter than Green River Mix.
- Yields of 2.5-4.5 ton DM can be achieved with good fertility. When harvested at mid/early boot stage, protein levels will be slightly higher than Green River Mix.
- Proper Nitrogen levels are needed to maximize tonnage. Responds very well to Sulfur applications with increases in yield and protein levels.
- Excellent fit for many rations.

#### **CULTURAL PRACTICES FOR OPT MIX**

**SOIL PREPARATION:** Similar to other small grains.

**PLANTING:** Recommended seeding rates are 100-110# per acre when under seeding, or 120 – 125# per acre when planting alone. Plant as early as possible to maximize yield.

**FERTILITY:** Good fertility is needed for optimum yields. Nitrogen will play the biggest role in maximizing tonnage. Apply 70 – 80 units of Nitrogen per acre. Actual units should include all forms of Nitrogen: credits from previous crop, manure, and commercial. At least 20 – 30 units of commercial Nitrogen are preferred for early season growth.

**HARVESTING:** General rule of harvest time is 55 – 60 days after planting. Specifically, to achieve the optimum feed value and yield, harvest should be done at the mid to late boot stage of the triticale or oats. Ensiled moisture should be 65% - 70%.

**HARVESTING WINDOW:** Although the time frame to achieve the highest forage quality is about 3 days, the overall window for OPT Mix to provide quality forage is 7 – 10 days. You decide the quality for your personal feed program.

#### **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:**

- 1) When used as a nurse crop for legumes, the harvest time should allow for 1 or 2 additional cuttings off your new seedings in the establishing year by enhancing seeding growth and health.
- 2) Replaces the cost of the herbicide used when direct seeding while producing tons of high quality forage.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN CONSTITUTES GENERAL GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS WHICH WOLF RIVER VALLEY SEEDS HAS FOUND TO BE HELPFUL. OBVIOUSLY, WEATHER, SOIL GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, ETC. CAN AFFECT PRODUCTIONS. WOLF RIVER VALLEY SEEDS MAKES NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, AS TO THE GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED HEREIN.