Millet and Sorghum Crops

Japanese Millet  

Japanese Millet is an annual millet that attracts a wide variety of wildlife including deer, ducks, quail, and dove. It is primarily used in plots for water fowl and is ideal for wet land or plots that are in flood areas. A rapid growing millet that produces ripe grain in 45 days after seeding. It grows as an erect plant 2-4 feet tall with a panicle inflorescence made up of 5-1 sessile branches with brownish to purple spike seeds. A warm season annual best adapted to medium to heavy soils and should be planted as a pure stand field crop. Performs well in areas that are wet and may be flooded at maturity. Japanese millet is usually grown as a late season grass.

Soil Types: Medium, heavy moist  
Seeding Rate: 25-35 lbs. per acre  
Planting Depth: ¼-1/2 inch  
Planting Date: April-Sept.

Hybrid Pearl Millet

Hybrid Pearl Millet is an annual warm season, rapid growing, high-yielding and high-quality grass added to food plots for nutrients and variety. Pearl millet is leafy with an upright growth habit, will grow 4 to 8 feet tall. It can be grown on well-drained soils but does not perform well on calcareous soils that flood. Pearl millet is tolerant of drought and acidic soil conditions. Soil temperature must be warm before planting since seed germination and seedling growth are very sensitive to cool soil conditions. Can be broadcast, drilled, or planted in rows. Pearl millet can be grown on low-fertility soils that are moderately acidic. The recommended soil pH is 6.0.

Soil Types: Wide variety, well-drained  
Seeding Rate: 25-30 lbs. per acre  
Planting Depth: ¼-½ inch  
Planting Date: April-Sept.

White Proso Millet

White Proso Millet is a warm season summer annual bunch grass, rather attractive to doves and quail. It may produce large amounts of seeds with a yellow shiny coat in a short time frame. White Proso performs well in mixes for wildlife cover and grows from 3 to 6 ft. tall. It will mature in 75 days after emergence. Very popular for dove, quail, turkey and duck fields. Can be used as an emergency crop when other primary crops have failed in drought. Proso Millet will produces well during hot weather conditions. Planting should always be made early enough to mature seeds prior to the first frost and must be planted after danger of frost has passed.

Soil Types: Wide variety well-drained  
Seeding Rate: 25-30 lbs. per acre  
Planting Depth: ¼-½ inch  
Planting Date: April - Aug

Grain Sorghum

Grain Sorghum is a medium early grain sorghum that requires 90-120 days to reach maturity, grows 3 to 4 ft. in height with a yellow semi-compact head. Sorghum is an early maturing plant, reaching the mid bloom stage about 40-50 days after planting. The seed becomes edible at maturity and is readily consumed by upland game birds and deer. Grain sorghum is a grass similar to corn in vegetative appearance, but has more tillers and more finely branched roots. The seed heads have more protein and fat than corn, but are lower in vitamin A. Sorghum needs 60-65°F soil for good emergence and is more tolerant of wet soils, flooding and drought than most grain crops.

Soil Types: Wide variety of moist soil  
Seeding Rate: 15-20 lbs. per acre  
Planting Depth: 1-1 ½ inch  
Planting Date: May - June