

Table 6. Effect of brassica cover crops on **plant size** of onions grown in the muck soils in Elba, NY.

Field	3-5 leaf stage				8-10 leaf stage			
	Sample date (DAP) ¹	No. leaves per plant	Height of tallest leaf (cm)	Neck diameter (mm)	Sample date (DAP) ¹	No. leaves per plant	Height of tallest leaf (cm)	Neck diameter (mm)
Triple G Case Study (Yellow direct seeded onion; c.v. Hendrix):								
Brown/yellow mustard blend (c.v Caliente) 11 lb/A; optimally planted on Aug-20-2013; late planted on Aug-30-2013 (10 days). Incorporation: cover crops chopped, disked and culti-mulched on Oct-25-2016 when mustard was 2 feet tall with ~1% in bloom.								
Bare ground	Jun-13 (48)	3.4 b ²	27.3 b	6.6 b	Jul-16 (81)	9.1 b	74.8 b	14.5 b
Late Planted Mustard	Jun-25 (51)	5.2 a	43.1 a	8.4 a	Jul-24 (80)	9.7 a	77.7 a	17.2 a
Optimally Planted Mustard	Jun-25 (51)	5.1 a	43.5 a	8.3 a	Jul-24 (80)	9.2 b	74.6 b	16.7 a
P Value ($\alpha=0.05$)	--	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	--	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Mortellaro Case Study (Yellow transplanted onion; c.v. Bradley):								
Brown/yellow mustard blend (c.v. Caliente) 12 lb/A; optimally planted on Aug-7-2013 and incorporated via chopping, plowing and rolling on Oct-23-2013 when mustard 5 feet tall with 70% in bloom; late planted on Sep 26-2013 (37 days late) and incorporated in the same manner on Oct-28-2013 when mustard was 4 feet tall with 30% bloom. Winter-killed late planted mustard was planted on Aug-27-2013 (7 days late). Forage radish (c.v Ecotill Buster) 8 lb/A was planted on Aug 30-2013 (10 days late).								
Incorporated Optimally Planted Mustard					Jun-20 (38)	8.4	58.1 ab	13.9 a
Incorporated Late Planted Mustard					Jun-20 (39)	8.2	55.9 c	11.8 b
Winter-killed Late Planted Mustard					Jun-20 (40)	8.3	56.4 bc	12.8 ab
Winter-killed Late Planted Forage Radish					Jun-20 (42)	8.5	59.7 a	13.3 a
P Value ($\alpha=0.05$)					--	NS⁴	0.0001	0.0000

¹DAP: Days after planting. Samples collected from 2 samples of 10 plants per each of 6 replicates.

²Numbers in a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different, Fisher's Protected LSD test, p<0.05.