

Selecting Flex Corn Hybrids to Improve Establishment of Interseeded Cover Crops



Interseeding cover crops is becoming a more viable option for establishing cover crops in northern climates. Interseeding cover crops allows for more time between sowing the cover crop seed and a killing frost. There are several significant challenges to this method of cover cropping including herbicide interactions with the cover crop, competition for moisture, and lack of sunlight once the cash crop canopies. The use of indeterminate corn varieties (flex) hybrids allows the producer to reduce corn populations while maintaining yields. The lower population will allow the ears to grow larger offsetting potential yield reductions from having less plant per acre. The purpose of lower corn populations is to allow for more sunlight to penetrate to the soil surface which will provide a better opportunity for the cover crop to establish. Unfortunately, true flex ear varieties are becoming less available as the corn breeders favor determinant (fixed) ear traits which provide more consistent yields over a wider variety of growing conditions. This factsheet provides a list of corn varieties suitable for use in the northeast that have flex traits. The varieties are grouped by seed company and listed by increasing relative maturity (RM) from shortest to longest.

Company	Variety	RM	Traits†
Brevant			
	B83K86AM	80	AM
	B90U88SX	90	SX
	B97F86AMXT	97	AMXT
	B09T70SX	109	SX
Channel			
	186-02	86	STX / RIB
	187-20	87	VT2P / RIB
	189-39	89	VT2P / RIB
	194-49	94	DG / VT2P / RIB
	194-75	94	STX / RIB
	195-85	95	DG / VT2P / RIB
	196-40	96	VT2P / RIB
	200-48	100	VT2P / RIB
Cropland			
	CP2790	87	VT2P / RIB
	CP3314	93	VT2P / RIB
	CP3575	95	SS / RIB
	CP4020	100	VT2P / RIB
	CP4429	102	SS / RIB
DeKalb			
	DKC37-50RIB	87	VT2P / RIB
	DKC37-49RIB	87	SS / RIB
	DKC44-80RIB	94	VT2P / RIB
	DKC 45-65RIB	95	SS / RIB

Company	Variety	RM	Traits†
DeKalb			
	DKC45-95RIB	95	VT2P / RIB
	DKC47-55RIB	97	VT2P / RIB
	DKC48-56RIB	98	SS / RIB
	DKC50-84RIB	100	VT2P / RIB
Golden Harvest			
	G02K39	102	None
Master's Choice			
	MC5250	102	None
NK			
	NK9535	95	GT / LL
	NK0243	102	None
Pioneer			
	P7940AM	80	AM / LL / RR2
	P8352AMXT	83	AMXT / LL / RR2
	P8407Q	84	Q / LL / RR2
	P8639AM	86	AM / LL / RR2
	P9233Q	92	Q / LL / RR2
	P9608	95	None
	P9608AM	95	AM / LL / RR2
	P9608R	95	RR2
	P9535AM	96	AM / LL / RR2
	P9880AM	98	AM / LL / RR2
	P0157AM	102	AM / LL / RR2
Seedway			
	SW3640	91	RR2
	SW3654RR	91	RR2
	SW904ERR	94	RR2
	SW3854RR	94	RR2
	SW3874RR	98	RR2
	SW3960GENSS(RIB)	99	GENSS / RIB
Wolf River Seeds			
	5122EZ	103	Agrisure Duracade

†Traits:

Agrisure Duracade (rootworm protection)
AM = Pioneer AcreMax
AMXT = Optimum, AcreMax, Xtreme
GENSS = Genuity Smart Stax
GT = Glyphosate Tolerant
LL = Liberty Link
Q = Qrome

RIB = Refuge in Bag
RR2 = RoundUp Ready 2 Yield
SS = SmartStax
STX = SmartStax
SX = SmartStax Refuge Advanced
VT2P = VT Double Pro



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January 2022 - Published by the University of Vermont Extension Northwest Crops and Soils Program.

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