

Brassica Biofumigant Cover Crops

Management

The crop benefits from moderate fertiliser and irrigation to optimise its performance as a biofumigant. Ammonium sulphate at 120kg/ha 3–5 weeks after planting is recommended.

Potential uses

- Biofumigant
 - Suppression of *Sclerotium rolfsii* in Winter/ Spring and Summer planting, *Macrophomina Phaseolina* Summer planting¹
 - Suppression of *Verticillium* Wilt, *Rhizoctonia* spp., *Pythium* spp., *Fusarium* spp.²
 - Suppression of Nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.)²
- Green manure crop
- Prevent soil loss through rainfall runoff
- Nursery to beneficial insects

Insect and disease issues

- **Significant insect pests include:** Cabbage cluster caterpillar, Cabbage centre grub and Aphids
- **Other insect pests found include:** Diamondback moth, Whitefly, Thrips, Rutherglen bugs, Leaf minor, Jassids and Flea beetles
- **Significant diseases include:** Downy mildew and Powdery mildew
- **Other common diseases include:** White blister, Bacterial brown rot, Virus and Phytoplasma

Refer to the APVMA for information about chemical control of pests. Always read and understand the label before using any chemical.

Mustclean New Generation 666



Photo: JD Duff

Botanical name *Brassica juncea*

Synonyms Indian Mustard

Seeding rate 10kg/ha

Growth habit

- Grows to 1m tall or more
- Deep tap root
- Bright yellow flowers
- Biomass production up to 137t/ha fresh weight

Planting All-season crop but greatest biomass during cooler time of the year

Incorporation

- 44 days in Summer
- 81 days in Winter

¹ Department of Agriculture and Fisheries ² Other sources