

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 nematodes (*Meloidogyne* and *Pratylenchus* species)¹
- Green manure crop, produces large amount of material
- Prevent soil loss through rainfall runoff

Insect and disease issues

- **Significant insect pests include:** Cabbage cluster caterpillar, Diamond back moth, Aphids and Whitefly
- **Other insect pests found include:** Cabbage centre grub, Cluster caterpillar, Thrips, Red-shouldered beetle, Flea beetle and Leaf minor
- **Significant diseases include:** Bacterial brown rot
- **Other common diseases include:** Powdery mildew and Pythium damping off

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

¹ Information from seed supplier

Nemcon and Nemclear™



Botanical name *Brassica napus*

Synonyms Rape seed and Fodder mustard

Seeding rate 15kg/ha

Growth habit

- Very dense plant with large blue/green foliage similar to broccoli. Failed to flower in south east Queensland
- Biomass production can be in excess of 170t/ha fresh weight

Planting All year round, best during cooler months

Incorporation Failed to flower even after 115 days, so incorporate after 3 months or to suit your rotation program