

Brassica crop rotations

Winter crops

Sow

Brassicas are often best used in a two-crop sequence to give better year-round feed supply.

This also improves subsequent pasture renewal, through better weed control and paddock preparation.

Advantages of a prior crop

Often paddocks are chosen for brassicas because of poor pasture growth. This may be due to underlying problems like poor soil fertility, drainage, weeds, pests or diseases. A prior crop (e.g. annual ryegrass) allows you to correct any issues before sowing the brassica, helping ensure high crop yields. It also provides valuable cool season feed.

Where weed content is high, multiple crops and herbicide applications achieve much better long-term weed control. And with turfy, fibrous grass weeds like browntop or cocksfoot, a prior crop gives time for turf to break down so you get a better seedbed for brassicas.

Crop rotation examples

Kale or swedes

Annual ryegrass can be sown before a winter kale or swede crop to produce extra winter and early spring feed.

D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
Poor pasture		Annual ryegrass crop (e.g. *Racer*)										Winter kale (e.g. *Bombardier*) or swedes (e.g. *Invitation*)									New perennial pasture		

Summer turnips

Annual ryegrass can be sown before a summer turnip crop to give you extra winter and early spring feed.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
Poor pasture		Annual ryegrass crop (e.g. *Racer*)							Summer rape (e.g. *Reviva*)					New perennial pasture			

Winter rape

A winter rape crop could be sown after Italian ryegrass, followed by one of several spring sown crops.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Poor pasture				Italian ryegrass (e.g. *Tabu+*)								Winter rape (e.g. *Interval*)								Perennial pasture, leafy turnip, or spring barley			

Better pasture together™

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