



LEGUMINOSE
the way to a green transition

Optimal intercropping partners for conventional cultivation



Main results and practical implementation

Intercropping has long been successfully practised in organic farming, resulting in some well-established combinations such as pea/barley, pea/triticale and faba bean/wheat.

We tested intercropping of winter faba bean/winter wheat and winter pea/triticale as winter crops, along with a spring mixture of white lupine and alternate wheat. In all cases, the crops were simultaneously sown.

The intercropping of winter faba bean (Augusta, NPZ) and winter wheat (Champion, DSV) at application rates of 12.5 and 125 seeds/m², respectively, proved to be highly successful. There is also potential to increase the application rate of the winter faba bean to 20 – 23 seeds/m² for even better results.



Challenges (and solutions)

Despite the overall success, we encountered certain challenges. The winter pea failed to produce a harvest due to its sensitivity to excessive soil moisture. In the white lupine and alternate wheat combination, the wheat matured slightly earlier than the lupine. Further testing is needed to optimise these intercropping strategies, particularly in terms of effective weed control.

Get in touch for more support!

Andre Gohlke, DSV, andre.gohlke@dsv-saaten.de

Norman Gentsch, LUH, gentsch@ifbk.uni-hannover.de



Benefits and impact

When selecting the optimal intercropping partners, several factors need to be considered in advance. The most important factor is simultaneous ripening. To achieve this, consider the ripening time of the legume and adjust the choice of cereal accordingly. Additionally, determine whether the crops can be sown at the same time or if a second pass is necessary.



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