

Sunn Hemp Planting Instructions

PLANT IN SOIL TEMPS OF 65° OR HIGHER

Seedbed Preparation

1. Select a site with well-drained sandy loam to medium heavy soil.
2. For optimum results perform a laboratory soil test in advance of planting to determine lime and fertilizer requirements. If using Whitetail Institute's laboratory, check the Sunn Hemp box on submittal form. If using another lab, test for forage sunn hemp. Whitetail Institute's soil test submittal forms can be purchased and downloaded at <https://whitetailinstitute.com/soil-test-kit-download-version/>
3. Add the amount of lime recommended in your soil test report. If no soil test is available, then add a minimum of 500 lbs. of lime per 1/4 acre. For best results, disk or till the lime into the top few inches of the seedbed. If possible, lime should be added several months in advance of planting. **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP! MAKING SURE SOIL pH IS OPTIMUM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN CONTROL TO ENSURE SUCCESSFUL PLANTING!**
4. Disk or till to prepare a good seedbed. If possible, perform this step two weeks before planting to help reduce the amount of weed seed that might germinate.
5. Add the fertilizer recommended in your soil test report to the seedbed. If no soil test is available, then add 100 lbs. of 17-17-17, or equivalent, fertilizer per 1/4 acre.
6. Lightly disk or till the fertilizer into the top few inches of the seedbed.

Planting

1. Either of the following methods can achieve proper seedbed preparation:
 - A. Disk ground thoroughly to kill grass and weeds. Allow this area to sit for 1 to 2 weeks. Re-disk ground again to achieve a seedbed that is grass and weed free. The second disking will be much easier and take fewer passes over the pre-worked ground. Reduce the cutting angle in your disk on the last pass over the ground to help level and smooth out the seedbed.
 - B. Apply a herbicide such as Roundup® to kill existing grass and weeds. Wait 2 weeks and disk thoroughly to create a clean seedbed. Reduce the cutting angle in your disk on the last pass over the ground to help level and smooth out the seedbed.
2. Broadcast seed and lightly drag to cover seed no more than 1/2 inch. Do not disk or till the seed into the soil.
3. If grass competition is heavy during the first few weeks after planting, spray your Sunn Hemp with Arrest Max grass herbicide and SureFire Crop Oil Plus.