



Brassica crop rotations

Winter crops

Sow

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

This also improves subsequent pasture renewal through better weed control and pasture persistence.

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.

If the paddock has turfy, fibrous grass weeds like browntop, fescue or cocksfoot, multiple crops and herbicide applications achieve much better long-term weed control. Using a prior crop also gives time for turf to break down giving a better seedbed for the brassica crop.

Crop rotation examples

Kale or swedes

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

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| Poor pasture | | Winter ryegrass crop (e.g. <i>Hogan</i>) | | | | | | | | | Winter kale (e.g. <i>Bombardier</i>) or swedes (e.g. <i>Invitation</i>) | | | | | | | | | New perennial pasture | | | |

Summer turnips

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

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| J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | J | F | M | A | M | J |
| Poor pasture | | Winter ryegrass crop (e.g. <i>Hogan</i>) | | | | | | | Summer turnip (e.g. <i>Dynamo</i>) | | | | New perennial pasture | | | | |

Winter rape

A winter rape crop could be sown after a cereal crop.

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| Poor pasture | | | | Cereal crop (e.g. Hattrick) | | | | | | | | Winter kale (e.g. <i>Interval</i>) | | | | | | Perennial pasture, leafy turnip, spring barley | | | | | |

Better pasture together™

