

Cover Crop Seed Sources for NYC Gardeners

Tips on Sourcing Cover Crop Seed

- For guidance selecting appropriate cover crops and planting dates for your area and management goals, consult the book *Managing Cover Crops Profitably*, available on-line for free at: <http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Books/Managing-Cover-Crops-Profitably-3rd-Edition>.
- **Try to source disease-resistant varieties** (e.g., Esker oats, Aroostock winter rye, etc.).
- **Make sure to source untreated seed** (i.e., seed that does NOT have fungicide on it). This will ensure that it's safe to handle, and will protect beneficial fungi in your soil, such as mycorrhizae.
- **Order in early spring**, even for late summer or fall plantings. Some winter-kill cover crops, such as oats, are also planted in early spring as grain or cover crops. If you wait until mid-summer, you may have difficulty finding the varieties you want.
- **Make sure you have enough row cover** to protect newly planted seeds until they germinate... otherwise, you may just be buying birdseed!

Gardening Organizations

These organizations may offer cover crop workshops and/or distribute free seeds. Check their websites each year for a calendar of workshops and distribution events, or contact them for more information.

❖ East New York Farms!

- **Website:** www.eastnewyorkfarms.org/
- **Email:** deborah@eastnewyorkfarms.org (Deborah Greig)
- **Phone:** 718-649-7979 x14

❖ Green Guerillas

- **Website:** www.greenguerillas.org/
- **Email:** info@nycgreen.org
- **Phone:** 212-594-2155

❖ GreenThumb

- **Website:** www.greenthumbnyc.org/
- **Email:** Use the form on their web page: www.greenthumbnyc.org/contact.html
- **Phone:** 212-788-8070

❖ Just Food / City Farms Workshops

- **Website:** www.justfood.org/city-farms/community-workshop-series
- **Email:** greg@justfood.org (Gregory Anderson)
- **Phone:** (212)645-9880 x229



Local Suppliers

❖ Long Island Cauliflower Association (Riverhead, NY)

- Website: www.licassoc.com/
- Email: Use the form on their web page: www.licassoc.com/contact.html
- Phone: 631-727-2212

Mail-Order

❖ Ernst Conservation Seed

- Website: www.ernstseed.com/ (Look under “Products” → Price List → Cover Crops)
- Email: 800- 873-3321
- Phone: sales@ernstseed.com

❖ Fedco Seeds – Organic Grower’s Supply

- Website: www.fedcoseeds.com/ogs.htm
- Phone: 207-426-9900

❖ Johnny’s Selected Seeds

- Website: www.johnnyseeds.com/ (Look under “Farm Seed”)
- Email: service@johnnyseeds.com
- Phone: 877-564-6697

❖ Lakeview Organic Grains

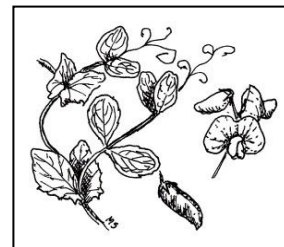
- Website: www.lakevieworganicgrain.com/ (Look under “Products” → Seed Price Lists)
- Email: info@lakevieworganicgrain.com or sales@lakevieworganicgrain.com
- Phone: 315- 531-1038



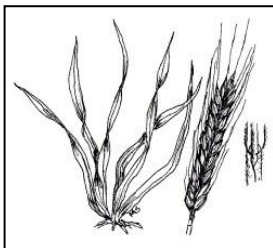
Buckwheat



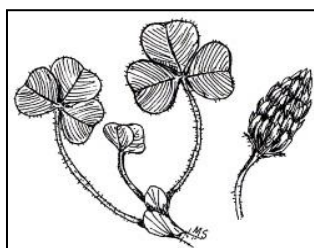
Oats



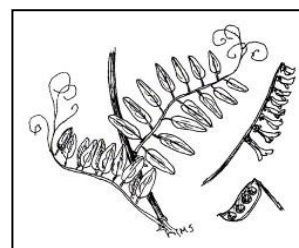
Field peas



Winter Rye



Crimson clover



Hairy vetch