



Big-n-Beasty Planting Tips

1. Big-n-Beasty is typically planted around August 1st depending on your location and your weather. Needs approximately 45-60 day growing season. Best if planted just before a rain. (Hint: Have fields prepared and ready to go, and then watch the weather forecast.)
2. BnB grows in most any soil given proper nutrients and moisture, but it prefers a well drained but heavier loam or clay soil.

*Approximately one month before planting condition the soil with a roto-tiller, disc, chisel plow or similar equipment to prepare a good seed bed. Next allow weeds to grow and then spray with Roundup one to two weeks before planting.
3. When ready to plant, loosen up the seed bed surface with a drag or chain link fence to further prep the soil. Do not till too deep, tilling deep will only bring more weed seeds to the surface. ****Before dragging is a good time to spread your fertilizer.***
4. Soil should be fertile with a pH of 6.5 to 7.5. If you are not sure of your soils fertility or pH, have your soil tested. Your local farm co-op or fertilizer dealer can usually help with this.

*A good fertilizer recommendation is 300-400 lbs of 19-19-19 followed by an application of 100lbs/acre of urea (46-0-0) after 4-6 weeks.

*If you see your plants turning purple and/or yellow it is lacking nutrients.
5. Using a hand or shoulder seeder, broadcast 4-5 lbs per acre. **DO NOT OVERSEED.** Can't stress this enough.

* Set your seeder on one of the smallest settings. Walk fast and crank hard! Better to go back and overlap then run out of seed to soon.
6. **Important:** Use a cultipacker, roller, or even your ATV tires to pack the field to insure good seed/soil contact. You do not need to worry about covering the seed. If the seed is planted too deep, it will not grow.

Weed Control & Some Additional Tips

- *As with all food plots it is always easiest and cheapest to start with a weed free seed bed using glyphosate (Roundup). As mentioned above, spray emerging vegetation 1-2 weeks before planting your field.
- *If Roundup is used prior to planting and under normal growing conditions, Big-n-Beasty grows fast enough that it should out-grow any weeds. If you do have a problem after germination, use a grass selective herbicide such as Select or Poast. This won't help with broadleaf weeds but it will control grasses.
- *If you have **sandy** soil or want to improve any field, try planting an inexpensive Spring annual such as annual rye grass or rye grain. Plow under this "green fertilizer" a few weeks before planting. This practice used by many crop farmers will help condition your soil, gather nitrogen, control weeds and add organic material to your soil.
- *If you are concerned about having additional forage in the Spring, mix in a small amount of clover seed when planting the Big-n-Beasty. (no more than 1-2 lbs/acre) This is not a recommended strategy for creating a good clover field, but it does provide some additional Spring forage for the deer until you till the field again.