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***Cover Crops - Ed Brown***

Welcome to the Cover Crop stand.

Catch and cover crops are now increasingly used for their ability to improve soil structure, add green manure and capture nutrients for the following crop.

We are pleased to offer our own range of catch and cover crop mixes, specifically designed to maximise the many benefits associated with their use. These mixes have been constructed on the reliability of the individual species and their ability to deliver key agronomic advantages and improvements in soil health. Technical justification has been the driver in each selection and the key aim with each mix has been to offer as much diversity as possible, while considering cost, reliability and confidence in performance.

Our over-winter cover crop mixes all use the same eight species, with ratios of each adjusted according to the situation in which they are placed. This means we can work consistently with species we have confidence in to provide the results required.

Our catch crop mixes present a great opportunity for those with more restrictive rotations to gain improvements in soil health, but also an additional opportunity for those already using cover crops.

**MaxiCover** Is a general-purpose over-winter mix which suits a wide range of situations and soil types and offers a wide range rooting depth and architecture to penetrate to structure soil and create drainage. The canopy offers good soil armour and weather protection.Contains legumes, forbs and brassicas which provides a varied food source for soil microbes.

**MaxiN** Suitable for a wide range of situations to maximise the fixation of nitrogen. Rates of applied N can therefore be reduced in the following crop, subject to correct management.

**Hairy vetch** provides high biomass fix more nitrogen whilst **Crimson clover** grows rapidly during the early growth stages. Suitable in situations where brassicas may cause issues.

**Maxi Rooter** Is designed to break up tight soils or bust through shallow compaction, using species with larger root systems and the aim is to save a cultivation pass. Using ‘roots not iron’ to repair damage and create a friable soil for establishment of the following crop.

**Maxi InterCrop** Is designed to provide summer cover in a variety of situations on all soil types and repairs damage to soil structure, returns organic matter and makes full use of the summer sun to pump carbon into the soil, feeding soil biology and fixing Nitrogen.

**Maxi CatchCrop** Is used on any soil type and is designed to fill a gap of approximately eight weeks between crops and provides a way of introducing diversity and living roots at every opportunity in the rotation.

Our own range of catch and cover crop mixes are specifically designed to maximise the many benefits associated with their use. The species are selected for their reliability and ability to deliver key agronomic advantages. There’s a mix to suit almost every scenario. We can also tailor a solution to meet specific needs.

Dick Neale How to build soil resilience with cover crop root structure: <https://youtu.be/QXyxRvvKjUU?list=PLalvoMN8oalh6moX0ifeS0nL7IynxK6od>

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**Company website URL:** <https://www.hlhltd.co.uk/downloads/hutchinsons/Cover-and-catch-crop-mixes-booklet-2020.pdf>

**Facebook URL:** HLHutchinsons

**Twitter URL:** @Hutchinsons\_Ag

**URL for company video:** Alice Cannon at Alnwick – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcwD65bKjk4&t=39s>