

## **Pheasants Forever / Quail Forever**

## **Habitat Information Sheet #11**

# **Big Buck Brassicas**Signature Series Food Plot

#### **General Description**

Big Buck Brassicas is the #1 seller for hardcore deer hunters. It's the perfect blend of forage turnips, radishes, and other brassica varieties to attract and keep deer on your property all fall and winter. The high sugar content in the mature plants attracts and keeps deer where you want them. This mix grows fast, maturing in just 45 days.

### **Target Species / Wildlife Value**

Whitetail bucks, turkey, mule deer, and even rumors of monster jackalopes.

#### **Timeline**

Generally, conduct site prep in July and August. Typically plant late July to early September.

#### **Planting Rates**

A 6 lb bag plants 1 acre (drilled or broadcasted).

#### **Contains**

A proprietary blend of six brassica varieties (Forage radish, forage turnip, purple top turnip, hybrid forage brassica, rapeseed, kale).

#### **Weed Management Options**

Grass-selective herbicides may be used on this mix pre and / or post-emergence. Always follow label instructions.

#### **Similar PFQF Signature Series Blends**

**Bird, Buck & Brood Food** has 11 varieties of grasses and legumes including pasja, sweet clover, buckwheat, cool season peas, sunflower, cowpeas, white mustard, alfalfa, rapeseed, millet, and partridge pea.



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**General Planting Instructions** 

#### **<u>Site Preparation</u>** (generally early July to August)

Poor site preparation is the number one reason for project failures. Mow (or burn) your food plot 3 to 5 weeks before planting to remove residual plant material from previous year. Alternately, mow (or disk) the previous fall, followed by spring disking and/or a burn-down herbicide application when new weedy growth is visible.

Get a soil test! Soil tests can be done in the fall or early spring. Typically, you should schedule 3-4 weeks for results. This is the only true way to determine your fertilizer, nutrient, and pH adjustment (lime) needs.

Spray with a contact herbicide (glyphosate / RoundUp) ahead of planting once weeds green up, following label instructions. If field has little history of broadleaf or grass competition, a contact herbicide may not be needed.

#### Weed Management (generally July to August)

Some weeds in a wildlife food plot can provide additional cover and food, but too many weeds will compete with your food plot reducing or even eliminating yields. Your site should be weed free at the time of planting (see site prep).

- DO NOT SPRAY WITH CONTACT HERBICIDE (glyphosate / Roundup) ONCE ESTABLISHED. If sprayed, it will die.
- Post-Emergent
  - o A grass-selective herbicide can be used to control annual and perennial grasses.

#### **Planting** (generally late July to early September)

Disk field before planting (unless no-tilling), incorporating fertilizer and nutrients (lime, etc.) per soil test results, or fertilize at planting. To improve yield, consider broadcasting 80-100 pounds of actual nitrogen (175-220 #s of 46-0-0) per acre 6 to 8 weeks after planting. Soils should be well drained (not wet). Do NOT overplant!

- Big Buck Brassicas can be no-till drilled or broadcasted.
- If broadcasting, incorporate into soil by dragging, cultipacking or lightly disking. Rolling seed bed after planting will increase germination.



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