

# Recommendations for Providing Wildlife Habitat within Warm-Season Grass Production Systems

## Provide nesting habitat for ground-nesting wildlife species.

- Do not mow grasses during the primary nesting season.
  - No mowing between April 1-August 1.

## Provide winter cover for wildlife.

- Retain a portion of your grasses for winter cover.
  - Do not harvest all acreage. Allow some grasses to stand over winter to provide thermal and escape cover for wildlife.

## Provide pollinator habitat and forage for wildlife.

- Promote diversity within your warm-season grass stand.
  - Allow the growth of native beneficial forbs such as goldenrod and wildflowers to provide a food source for pollinators, insects, and other wildlife species.

## Plant a diverse warm-season grass mix with switchgrass as the dominant component.

- Multiple grass species within your stand improves structural and species diversity.
  - A stand dominated by switchgrass will more effectively withstand the elements during winter, providing quality winter cover for wildlife.

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