

# Cover Crops Market Forecasts to 2032 – Global Analysis By Type (Cereals & Grains, Legumes, Brassicas, Broadleaves and Other Types), Farm Type, Function, Duration, Application, End User and By Geography

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## Abstracts

According to Statistics MRC, the Global Cover Crops Market is accounted for \$1.70 billion in 2025 and is expected to reach \$3.52 billion by 2032 growing at a CAGR of 10.9% during the forecast period. Cover crops are plants grown primarily to protect and enrich the soil rather than for harvest. Commonly used in agricultural practices, these crops such as legumes, grasses, and brassicas are planted between main crop cycles to improve soil health, reduce erosion, suppress weeds, enhance water retention, and increase biodiversity. Long-term soil fertility and structure are preserved by cover crops, which fix nitrogen, scavenge nutrients, and contribute organic matter. By lowering the need for chemical inputs, they also contribute to sustainable farming and climate resilience. Before sowing the primary crop, farmers frequently chemically or mechanically remove cover crops.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Soil health improvement

Cover crops enhance the amount of organic matter, improve water retention, and lessen erosion. Their root systems promote microbial activity, which improves the cycling of nutrients. Higher agricultural yields and less reliance on artificial inputs are the outcomes of improved soil health. For long-term sustainability, this encourages farmers

to use cover cropping techniques. The need for cover crops keeps increasing as more people become aware of regenerative agriculture.

#### Restraint:

##### Lack of farmer awareness

A large portion of the farming community remains unaware of their benefits for soil fertility and erosion control. Without proper knowledge, they hesitate to change traditional farming practices. Limited outreach and education programs worsen the issue. This slows demand and reduces market growth potential. As a result, the cover crops market faces significant barriers to expansion.

#### Opportunity:

##### Crop yield enhancement

Higher yields are a result of cover crops' ability to fix nitrogen, inhibit weed growth, and stop erosion. They are used by farmers to enhance long-term soil structure and lessen reliance on synthetic fertilisers. Increased water retention due to improved organic matter from cover crops directly improves crop productivity. The adoption of cover crops is fuelled by growers' search for sustainable ways to increase yields as food demand rises. Both the conventional and organic farming sectors' market demand is strengthened by this increased awareness.

#### Threat:

##### Limited immediate returns

Farmers often prioritize short-term profits over long-term soil benefits. Since cover crops do not generate direct income, they are seen as an added cost. This discourages investment, especially among small-scale farmers with tight budgets. The delayed benefits like improved soil fertility or reduced erosion are not always compelling in the short run. Consequently, adoption remains low, slowing market growth.

#### Covid-19 Impact:

The COVID-19 pandemic initially disrupted the cover crops market due to global supply chain interruptions, labor shortages, and limited access to agricultural inputs. Farmers

delayed or reduced cover crop planting as they prioritized essential crops and faced financial uncertainty. Additionally, logistical challenges affected seed distribution and availability. However, the pandemic also heightened awareness of sustainable farming practices, prompting renewed interest in soil health and resilience. As recovery progressed, support from governments and institutions encouraged adoption, gradually stabilizing the market and reinforcing the long-term value of cover crops in regenerative agriculture.

The cereals & grains segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The cereals & grains segment is expected to account for the largest market share during the forecast period by serving as a key crop rotation option to improve soil health. Cover crops like rye, oats, and barley are commonly used before or after cereals to reduce erosion and suppress weeds. Their use enhances nutrient cycling, particularly nitrogen retention, which benefits subsequent grain yields. Farmers growing cereals increasingly adopt cover cropping to meet sustainable farming standards and reduce chemical inputs. This rising integration strengthens market demand and promotes environmentally conscious agricultural practices.

The research institutions segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

Over the forecast period, the research institutions segment is predicted to witness the highest growth rate by driving innovation in seed development and soil health enhancement. These institutions conduct trials and studies that validate the agronomic benefits of cover crops, boosting farmer confidence. Their findings help shape sustainable farming practices and influence policy frameworks that support cover crop adoption. Collaborations with agricultural universities and government bodies lead to knowledge dissemination and training programs. As a result, increased awareness and proven benefits fuel market growth across diverse farming communities.

Region with largest share:

During the forecast period, the Asia Pacific region is expected to hold the largest market share, driven by rising awareness of sustainable agriculture and soil health among farmers. Countries like India, China, and Australia are adopting cover cropping to combat soil erosion and enhance moisture retention. Government initiatives promoting organic farming and carbon sequestration also support market growth. However, low adoption rates due to limited knowledge, small landholdings, and lack of mechanization

hinder faster expansion. Rice-wheat systems dominate, and legumes, grasses, and brassicas are the preferred crop types. Growth remains uneven across countries, relying heavily on education, subsidies, and regional climate adaptability.

Region with highest CAGR:

Over the forecast period, the North America region is anticipated to exhibit the highest CAGR, due to strong institutional support, environmental regulations, and advanced farming techniques. The United States and Canada actively encourage cover crop usage to combat soil erosion, improve water retention, and boost carbon sequestration. Large-scale commercial farms, especially in the Midwest, widely adopt rye, clover, and radish as part of crop rotation systems. Financial incentives from the USDA and sustainability certification programs support adoption. High awareness, technological integration, and a mature agri-input industry give this region a competitive edge. However, climatic variability and economic return concerns can occasionally hinder full-scale implementation.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players in Cover Crops Market include Bejo Zaden B.V., KWS SAAT SE & Co. KGaA, Advanta Seeds International, DLF A/S, Royal Barenbrug Group, Albert Lea Seed House, Inc., Grassland Oregon, Inc., King's AgriSeeds, Inc., Horizon Seeds Canada Inc., Seedway, LLC, La Crosse Seed, LLC, Sakata Seed Corporation, RAGT Semences S.A.S., Limagrain Field Seeds and S&W Seed Company.

Key Developments:

In August 2023, Bejo Zaden launched B?Mox®, an enhanced seed priming technology for onion seeds. It boosts seedling vigor, establishment, and resilience under stress conditions. This innovation also holds potential for broader seed coating applications, including cover crops, by improving germination and early growth performance.

In February 2023, Advanta entered into a non-exclusive licensing agreement with Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), facilitated by IRRI. Under the deal, Advanta can produce and distribute certified seed of the rice variety IR 05N221 ("Komboka") in Kenya.

In January 2023, KWS introduced INITIO seed treatment for vegetable seeds like beans and spinach in Europe and T?rkiye. Initially designed for cover crops like cereals and

oilseed rape, it enhances early seedling vigor, root development, and stress tolerance.

#### Types Covered:

Cereals & Grains

Legumes

Brassicas

Broadleaves

Other Types

#### Farm Types Covered:

Conventional Farms

Organic Farms

Regenerative Farms

Conservation Agriculture

#### Functions Covered:

Soil Fertility Enhancement

Weed Suppression

Erosion Control

Moisture Retention

Pest and Disease Management

Biodiversity Improvement

Carbon Sequestration

Other Functions

Durations Covered:

Annual Cover Crops

Biennial Cover Crops

Perennial Cover Crops

Applications Covered:

Winter Cover Crops

Summer Cover Crops

Fallow Season Cover Crops

Year-Round Cover Crops

End Users Covered:

Commercial Farmers

Smallholder Farmers

Research Institutions

Agribusiness & Seed Companies

Other End Users

**Regions Covered:****North America**

US

Canada

Mexico

**Europe**

Germany

UK

Italy

France

Spain

Rest of Europe

**Asia Pacific**

Japan

China

India

Australia

New Zealand

South Korea

Rest of Asia Pacific

## South America

Argentina

Brazil

Chile

Rest of South America

## Middle East & Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Qatar

South Africa

Rest of Middle East & Africa

What our report offers:

- Market share assessments for the regional and country-level segments
- Strategic recommendations for the new entrants
- Covers Market data for the years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2028, and 2032
- Market Trends (Drivers, Constraints, Opportunities, Threats, Challenges, Investment Opportunities, and recommendations)
- Strategic recommendations in key business segments based on the market estimations
- Competitive landscaping mapping the key common trends
- Company profiling with detailed strategies, financials, and recent developments
- Supply chain trends mapping the latest technological advancements

Free Customization Offerings:

All the customers of this report will be entitled to receive one of the following free

customization options:

#### Company Profiling

Comprehensive profiling of additional market players (up to 3)

SWOT Analysis of key players (up to 3)

#### Regional Segmentation

Market estimations, Forecasts and CAGR of any prominent country as per the client's interest (Note: Depends on feasibility check)

#### Competitive Benchmarking

Benchmarking of key players based on product portfolio, geographical presence, and strategic alliances

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