

## Chart 11 - A Comparison of Ground Covers and Green Manures

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All of the plants mentioned in this chart can be used as feed for animals. However, cutting them for feed limits their effectiveness as green manures and cover crops. The distinction between green manures and cover crops is minimal, and often the two words are used interchangeably. The following definitions show the difference in emphasis of the two terms. Green manure crops are those grown for the purpose of incorporation when the plant is fresh and green (thus high in nitrogen), resulting in soil enrichment and a greater water holding capacity. Ground cover crops grow vigorously to outcompete weeds and provide a good soil covering and mulch. These crops are also good for soil improvement and erosion prevention.

		ANNUAL OR		PERENNIAL (GROWTH HABIT)		USES
COMMON NAME		SPECIES NAME				
Butterflypeas	<i>Clitoria tematea</i>	Annual	Climbing Vine	Ground Cover		
Beggonias	<i>Demodion geydii</i>	Annual	Shrub	Ground Cover		
Beggonias	<i>Demodion heterophylla</i>	Annual	Shrub	Ground Cover		
Beggonias	<i>Demodion salicifolius</i>	Annual	Shrub	Ground Cover		
Calceps	<i>Calceopogon mucronatus</i>	Either	Trelling Vine	Green Manure		
Curtis	<i>Campoclea pubescens</i>	Perennial	Climbing Vine	Ground Cover		
Indigo	<i>Indigofera hendeei</i>	Perennial	Shrub	Green Manure		
Indigo	<i>Indigofera pulchra</i>	Perennial	Shrub	Green Manure		
Kudzu, legum	<i>Pueraria phalloides</i>	Perennial	Climbing Vine	Ground Cover		
Lobelia Bean	<i>Dolichos lablab</i>	Annual	Climbing Vine	Ground Cover		
Perennial	<i>Aescholop</i>		Cover			
Perennial	<i>Aescholop</i>		Perennial	Trelling Vine	Ground Cover	
Peas			Feed			
Peas	<i>Demodion trifolium</i>		Perennial	Trelling Vine	Ground Cover	
Peas	<i>Demodion uncinatum</i>		Perennial	Trelling Vine	Ground Cover	
Peas	<i>Demodion uncinatum</i>		Perennial	Trelling Vine	Ground Cover	
Scum hemp	<i>Oxystelea juncea</i>	Annual	Shrub	Green Manure		
			Flax			
Wheat bean	<i>Stalobium mucrona</i>	Annual	Trelling Vine	Ground Cover		
Winged bean	<i>Psophocarpus</i>	Annual	Climbing Vine	Ground Cover		
	<i>heterophyllus</i>		Manure			
Vigna	<i>Vigna hirsuta</i>	Perennial	Vine	Ground Cover		
Vigna	<i>Vigna lutea</i>	Perennial	Vine	Ground Cover		
Vigna	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>	Annual	Climbing Vine	Ground Cover		
			Manure			
Vigna	<i>Vigna waltata</i>	Perennial	Trelling Vine	Ground Cover		