



Your Wildflower Seeds Sowing Guide



Wildflowers are very important in supporting our native insects and animals. Not only do they encourage high biodiversity, they also make a pretty and colourful addition to any garden.

Wildflower Meadows

The most attractive way to grow wildflowers is by planting a meadow, although they can also be grouped formally in beds and borders to great effect. A quintessential part of the British countryside, wildflower meadows are an important part of our environment and an excellent, wildlife friendly alternative to lawns and borders.

There are two main types of wildflowers you can grow at home - annuals and perennials.

Annuals - like Poppies and Cornflowers, they only flower once unless left to self seed. They take approx 8 /12 weeks from sowing to flowering. If left to self seed, they'll be back in following years.

Perennials - whilst some will flower in the first year these put down roots initially and come into their own in subsequent years.

Preparing the Ground

Prepare the ground by removing as many existing plants as possible then dig the soil over, firm well and rake to create a level seed bed. If possible, although not essential, leave the soil to settle for a few weeks.

Sow the seeds at a rate of 1 to 3 grams per square metre depending on density required, then rake the area over and water lightly, if necessary, cover with netting to protect from birds.

For the best germination ensure the soil is kept moist during hot, dry periods.

Note: whilst we expect you to get a good outcome from your seeds, we have to make a disclaimer - germination and growth are not in our control and are the responsibility of the end user. Various factors - ground preparation, weather, season, soil type, pests and too much or too little water will all have an affect. Also seeds take time to germinate and will flower at different times, so patience is needed. Any specific images used by Seeds4bees Ltd are only a representation of what you might expect and you may not get exactly the results shown.

See over for when to sow...



Sowing Guide

Annual Wildflowers - sown from March to June should produce a bloom in their first season, giving a bright show of colour from early summer before dying and setting seed in autumn.

Perennial Wildflowers - sown in late summer or autumn, these are more truly representative of those found naturally in the British countryside and thrive best on poor soils, they may flower in the first year but will come into their own the following spring and summer.

Annual & Perennial mix - as these include a wide variety of seeds they can be sown from March through to October, however if sown in **March, April, May or early June** the annuals will provide a good show of colour in the first year, the perennials should flower in the first year and will set down roots for a show during the following and subsequent years.

Note: Sowing in *late June, July or early August* - if the soil is not too hot and gets enough water, you'll likely get a short display from the annuals, the perennials and annuals if left to reseed will provide more flowers in the following years.

If sown from **mid August, September, to mid October**, you'll have an earlier and longer flowering season during the following year - annuals will give a good display for longer and the perennials will have had time to set roots over winter.

Ideal Sowing times for our Wildflower mix:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		
			■	■	■	■	■	■			

■ When to sow your seeds

■ When to expect your wildflowers

Note - Purple Tansy and Borage, whilst great for bees, can dominate in the first year. If you prefer you can remove (thin out) some of these plants - this will allow more space for the other wildflowers to flourish! (See seeds4bees.com/pages/what-to-expect for images of these flowers)

Wildflower Maintenance

No regular maintenance is necessary as plants can be left intact over winter to self seed. If preferred, cut back in late summer and simply shake the flowers over the soil for next year's display.

Enjoy!