



meadow flowers
australia

HOW TO SOW

YOUR MEADOW FLOWER SEEDS

Create your very own meadow flower garden with this “fool-proof and easy guide”. This guide is based on a 50 sqm area (100grams of seeds) – the theory remains the *same* for all area sizes.

Our wish is for you to have outstanding results, so, if you are in any doubt, please email us at contact@meadowflowers.com.au.

When: Autumn & Spring (avoiding frost)

Where: Australia-Wide

How: With our fool-proof and easy guide that you *should* follow



STEP 1

Creating a Welcoming, Nutritious Seed Bed

a) Measure

Measure your area in square metres to determine the quantity of seed mix you will need to order. We suggest between 2 and 3 grams per square metre. The 3- gram rate will cope with poorer soil and difficult positions or will give you a denser flowering.

b) Clearing the Seedbed

The next step is to rid the proposed seedbed of old existing and buried seeds and weeds. We recommend using [Slasher Weedkiller](#) – it is an *organic* weed killer that is safe for the environment. Alternatively, we also recommend using [Weedmaster Argo](#). Both weedkillers are *safe* for bees and butterflies. Please read the instructions carefully and use them accordingly. When the existing plants have turned fully yellow, remove all the debris.

IMPORTANT: For the future success of your meadow flowers, **clearing the existing bed of unwanted seeds, weeds, etc is of the utmost importance**. So, consider allowing time to **repeat** this treatment again.

***NOTE:** It is important to create this nutritious seedbed. If you have any doubts at all, organise for a **soil test** to be done. This will tell you what you need to do to bring it up to an acceptable standard.

c) Preparing the Seedbed

Dig, rotary hoe and/or scarify and rake the soil to achieve a smooth friable/fine tilth seedbed. To that area, add any *nutrients* that you may have been *advised* to use. We recommend adding mushroom compost or mature cow manure. Then, slightly mix the nutrients and the soil together again.



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STEP 2

Sowing the Seeds

Since there are many varieties in the mix which contain tiny seeds (e.g. 9,000 poppy seeds to 1 gram – how small is that!), you will need a **carrier** to ensure an even distribution of these varieties. We strongly suggest using only **Grade 3 Vermiculite** as the carrier, it is *non-toxic* and *safe* for the environment, and most importantly, it'll keep the seeds *warm* and attracts *moisture*.

To decide how much carrier you will need, on a sq. metre of clean dry surface spread the Vermiculite *by hand*, using open fingers spreading left to right and top to bottom until you have a thin covering. Measure this amount & multiply by your total sq. metres + 10%. This is the amount you will need*. Now mix your carrier and seeds together until you feel they are evenly mixed.

**(Approximately 20g per sqm for 2g sowing rate & 30g per sqm for 3g sowing rate)*

We suggest for areas greater than 100 sq. metres, sow in 50 sq. metre blocks.

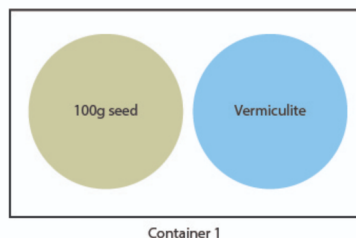
You will need 3 containers to perform the following if sowing more than 100 square metres.



Container 1

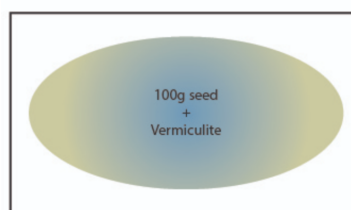
Pour the following into this container:

- The Vermiculite you need for the 50 sq. metres.
- 100g of seeds (to cover 50 sq. metres)



Container 1

Now mix and mix until you feel that you have thoroughly spread the many species as evenly as possible.

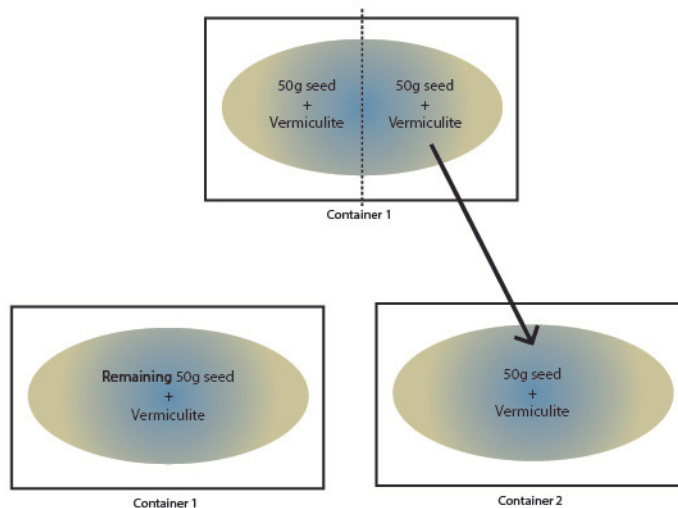


Container 1



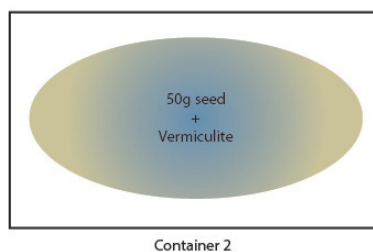
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Next, split the contents in **Container 1** into 2 *even halves* and place one half into **Container 2** and keep the remaining seed and Vermiculite in **Container 1**, to be used later.

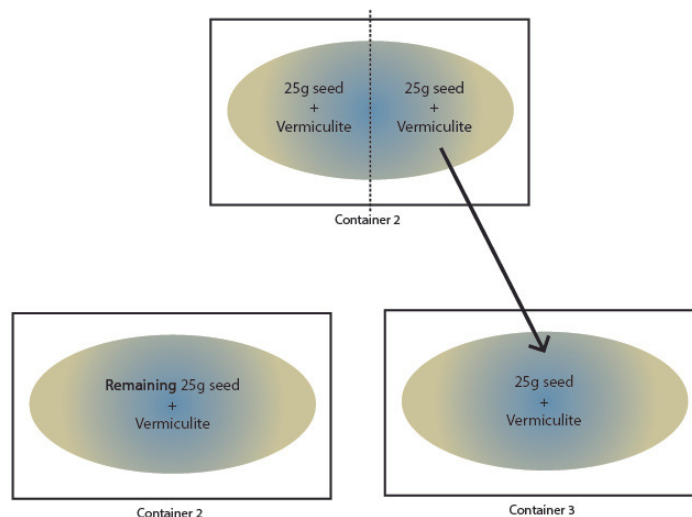


Container 2

You are now holding 50 grams of seeds mixed with carrier, which will cover 25 square metres.



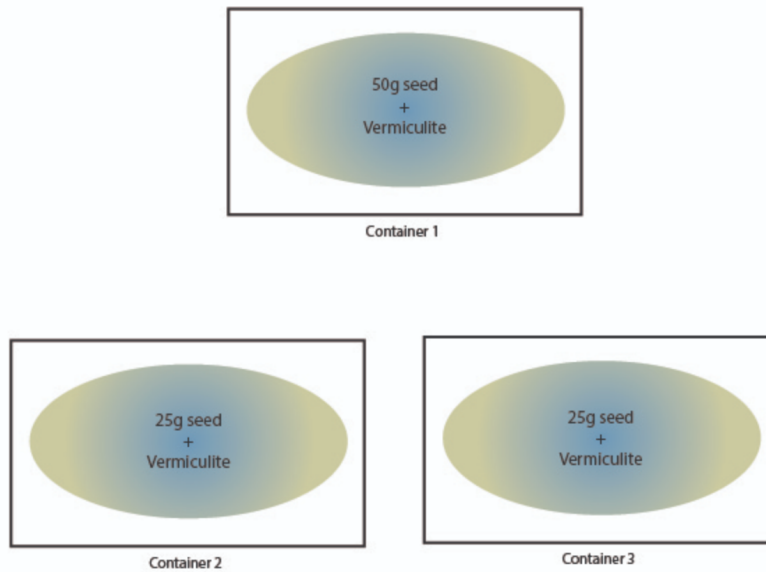
Re-mix again to ensure a maximum spread, and then split into 2 *even halves*. Keep one half in **Container 2** and move the other half into **Container 3**.



You now have:

Container 1 - holding 50 grams of seeds and their carriers.

Containers 2 & 3 - holding 25 grams each of seeds and their carriers.



Re-mix again to ensure a maximum spread.

Take **Container 2** and with a *fine* hand spray, dampen the contents with water – as your spray, continue mixing by hand until all the contents are *damp, but not wet*. The seeds will now *stick* to the vermiculite which helps enormously in having an even distribution of seeds.

Again, divide these contents into *two lots* and with an open hand, spread one lot from left to right, and the other lot from top to bottom for even distribution. This method is called *cross-hatching*.

Now *repeat* this same process with **Container 3**.

As for the 50g remaining in **Container 1**, *repeat* steps from **“Container 2”** to sow the remaining seeds.

STEP 3

Protect and Water the Seeds

a) Protect

We recommend spreading sugar cane mulch *evenly* and *thinly* over the area – avoiding walking directly onto the bare soil. Once covered, it needs to be rolled to make sure the seeds have *good soil contact*. Use a garden roller or shuffle your feet across the mulch.

b) Water

We highly suggest installing irrigation including a timer, if available. Please consider that you may have to water your flowers more/frequently during hot and dry summers.

If you haven't got irrigation in the early developing stages, soak them well, once, or twice a week. You can ease off later but if they show early signs of drooping, give them a soaking. *Do not over-water but moisten well* – and keep moist until well after germination and beyond. Once you see your seeds germinating, roll the area lightly to ensure the seedlings maintain good soil contact.

STEP 4

Aftercare for your Meadow

If grasses become a real problem, at any stage, then use the chemical *herbicide* **Fusillade Forte 128EC**. Please read the instructions *carefully* and use them *accordingly*. This will only kill the *grasses*, leaving your Meadow Flowers room to bloom.

That wasn't too bad, was it?

Do it right and you will be rewarded for many months to come with beautiful flowers.

