

# Wildflowers



## *Do's*

- Have a dedicated area for wildflowers as they're beautiful and so natural
- Get the preparation right, that's the key to successfully establishing wildflowers
- Choose a mix with both perennial and annual varieties to give longevity and impact throughout
- Let them set seed after flowering before cutting them back
- Plant somewhere with at least half a day of sun to help them thrive
- Rake clippings away after they have been cut to help keep the soil poor

## *Don'ts*

- Sow or plant them straight into established grassland as they will get smothered by the existing plants
- Assume there's no maintenance
- Sow seeds during the summer or winter, Spring or Autumn is perfect
- Incorporate organic matter or manure as it's too fertile, they like poor soil
- Forget to add Yellow Rattle, this will help to restrict grass growth and make sure to weed out unwanted plants
- Cut corners, follow the correct preparation to ensure success

*"One person's weed is another person's wildflower"*

# Where to start?



## PICK YOUR PLACE

Choose your area where you want to create either your mini wildflower garden or maybe even a larger wildflower meadow. Sunny positions are easier to start with and it doesn't matter if it's flat or sloped



## KILL OFF THE GRASS

You need to kill off the existing grass and weeds, leave it to grow to 6 inches and apply herbicide during the growing season, this will allow your wildflowers a perfect start, eliminating the competition.



## PREPARE THE SEEDBED

Scrape off any debris first and then rake up a seedbed by hand or on larger areas use a rotavator. You only need to cultivate the top 2 inches so the seedlings roots can establish



## LEAVE TO GERMINATE

Now the important bit, leave the soil and allow the seeds that are already in there to germinate. There will be all sorts of weeds and these would smother the wildflowers if left to grow



## KILL OFF THE WEEDS

As soon as the seedlings get to 1inch (25mm) tall get the sprayer again and kill them off, this is now the stage when you are ready to sow and the seed bed is clean and weed free



## SOW THE SEEDS

Bulk up your wildflower seed with vermiculite. You can make a 1m x 2m frame and measure out how much seed is used per m<sup>2</sup> as a gauge. Sow in 1 direction then again crossing over



## SPOT TREAT WEEDS

Allow your new seedlings to develop then spot treat any weeds that establish in your wildflower meadow. Don't dig them out otherwise you uncover more weed seeds



## WATCH AND ENJOY

Now it's time to sit back and enjoy. Strim your meadow once a year in the summer removing the clippings and top up with new seed every now and then in patches



Holden Clough  
NURSERIES  
SINCE 1927

WILDFLOWER SEEDS AVAILABLE IN 'THE POTTING SHED'