

# Enhance Birds

## Product Specification

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#### Product Code:

ENC-Bird

#### Manufacturer:

Wildflower Co.

#### Manufacturer Contact Details

 01256 771 222

 [wildflower@wildflowerexperts.com](mailto:wildflower@wildflowerexperts.com)

 [www.wildflowerexperts.com](http://www.wildflowerexperts.com)

# Technical Specification

<b>Product code</b>	ENC-Bird
<b>Manufacturer</b>	Wildflower Co.
<b>Dimensions</b>	1 x 10L bag = 1.6m <sup>2</sup> 1 cubic metre bag = 66m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Weight</b>	4.5-5kg for 10L bag 1 cubic meter bag = 185kg
<b>No. of species</b>	9 species <a href="#">Access full species list here.</a>
<b>Grass:flora sowing ratio</b>	100% Wildflowers
<b>Flowering period</b>	May - October
<b>Established height</b>	50-200cm (Avg height 110cm)
<b>Time to establish</b>	3-18 months (at least 1 year for plants that need vernalisation period)
<b>Soil type</b>	Suitable for all soil types
<b>Seed provenance and testing</b>	Grown in England using UK native species. Seed analysis results available on request.
<b>BNG suitability</b>	This mix is not suitable for BNG. Bespoke mixes for BNG are available on request.
<b>Substrate features</b>	Contains Hydropor™ for greater moisture retention
<b>Seed mix</b>	Calibrated using seed weight analysis

## About the substrate:

This revolutionary wildflower substrate isn't your average soil. It's been scientifically engineered and rigorously tested to be the perfect incubator for the wildflower seeds. Compared to traditional methods, this translates to a dramatically improved germination process, giving your wildflowers a head start and a fighting chance to thrive.

The secret lies in Hydropor™, our proprietary ingredient. It acts like a tiny sponge, ensuring seeds efficiently absorb water – the key to kickstarting germination.

\* Actual % may vary, based on environmental factors and seed availability. You may not see every species listed as the product is designed to adapt to individual settings, including a wide range of soil types and environmental conditions. Many species may not flower within the first year.

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# Species List

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All seed grown by Wildflower Co. is tested to stringent standards for germination and purity.

Seed analysis results are available on request.

Species	Flowering Time	Ultimate Height	Colour	Life Cycle
<b>Wildflower Species</b>				
<b>Common Knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>)</b>	June - Sept	100		P
<b>Common Poppy (<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>)</b>	June - Aug	60		A
<b>Cornflower (<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>)</b>	June - Sept	100		A
<b>Cosmos (<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>)</b>	June - Aug	90		A
<b>Field Scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>)</b>	July - Oct	150		P
<b>English (Pot) Marigold (<i>Calendula officinalis</i>)</b>	June - Oct	50		BI
<b>Oxeye Daisy (<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>)</b>	May - July	90		P
<b>Teasel (<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>)</b>	July-Aug	200		BI
<b>Wild Carrot (<i>Daucus carota</i>)</b>	June - Oct	150		P

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# Preparation and installation

## Management plan for long-term success

### Soil preparation

Cut any existing vegetation to a maximum height of 25mm and remove all of the cuttings. Use a rake or still tined instrument to expose some soil where the product can be installed. This will create a tilth to improve seed-to-soil contact for better germination.

### Soil conditions and fertility

Ensure soil is not waterlogged or compacted prior to sowing wildflower seed. The soil does not need to be fertilised before or after installation. However, where soil is fertile, particular attention must be paid to the maintenance regime – see maintenance section.

### Laying Enhance Birds

- Apply the product using your chosen application method.
- For a blanket application, spread the product evenly across the whole of your space, to a minimum depth of 15mm.
- If you prefer a sectioned approach, apply the product in 20cm patches. Best suited for a sections, budget savvy approach.
- Roll or trample the product to ensure good compression of the seed within the substrate and on the tilth. This will improve the germination rates and limit the risk of washing.

### Watering

If no rain is forecast, water the product to help it settle in. Keep the area damp for 2-3 weeks after installation to encourage growth.

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# Maintenance

## Management plan for long-term success

### Fertiliser

No fertiliser is needed, although in some circumstances, for example on a green roof or where the turf is on very low fertility soil such as sand or gravel, the addition of a light dose of fertiliser in the spring may improve plant development.

### Annual Maintenance

Allow 3-18 months for the flowers to fully establish. You can continue your annual maintenance cut during the establishment period. For the annual maintenance cut in the autumn, it is important to cut the meadow down to 2-3 inches (50-75mm) off the ground and remove all cuttings. This can be done by strimming and raking, or using a mower and collecting the cuttings. Make sure these tools are sharp. The cut is an important part of the meadows life cycle and ensures re-growth and species diversity year on year. Cuttings should not be left on the meadow, as they add undesirable fertility to the ground. It is also important to remove all leaf litter that falls onto the area.

### Timing the cut

The annual maintenance cut should be done in late September, early October. There is no need for a set date, but this timing will allow the plants in the meadow to regenerate before the first frost typically in November. You can choose to cut only half of the meadow area at one time to allow time for fauna to migrate to the uncut meadow - this is particularly beneficial for this bird mix which provides food for birds throughout the winter months. Meadows incorporating this Enhance Bird seed mix can be left standing all winter, either as a whole or in parts. In this case the meadow should be cut in later winter/early spring instead of the usual early autumn cut. Over time alternate the areas that are cut early and the areas that are left as this will benefit species diversity.

### Managing the fertility in the ground

On fertile sites or where you might have species dominance or too vigorous early growth, a second cut at the end of May, beginning of June can be introduced.

This high cut, approximately 8 to 10 inches off the ground (200mm to 250mm) to remove the flower heads but leaving enough plant stems and leaf area to regenerate, and removal of all cuttings, will help to knock back some species dominance, reduce soil fertility and open up the sward to more light and air circulation to promote diversity of lower growing species. Once the cutting has been completed and all cuttings removed, give the area a good soaking with water to encourage the next flush of growth. Introducing this early summer cut and removal will mean your second autumn cut and removal will be later that year, up to the end of October.

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