

# Wildflower Turf®

## Low Grow

### Product Specification

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**Product Code:**

WFT-Low Grow

**Manufacturer:**

Wildflower Co.

**Manufacturer Contact Details**

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# Technical Specification

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Manufacturer</b>                | Wildflower Co.   |
| <b>Turf dimensions</b>             | 1m x 1.2m slabs or 0.77m x 1.62m rolls, 15-35mm thickness (depending on age)   |
| <b>Weight</b>                      | 16-20kg per metre.   |
| <b>No of species</b>               | 28 species (22 wildflowers, 6 non-invasive grasses)<br><a href="#">See full species list for further details.</a>    |
| <b>Grass:flora sowing ratio</b>    | 60% wildflowers*, 40% grasses  |
| <b>Flowering period</b>            | April - October  |
| <b>Established height</b>          | 20-80cm (Avg height 50cm)  |
| <b>Time to establish</b>           | 2-3 months (at least 1 year for plants that need vernalisation period)   |
| <b>Soil types</b>                  | Suitable for all soil types  |
| <b>Seed provenance and testing</b> | Grown in England using UK native, naturalised and non-native species.<br>Seed analysis results available on request. |
| <b>Recyclability</b>               | Packaging 100% recyclable, product 100% biodegradable  |
| <b>BNG suitability</b>             | Possible suitability for Other Neutral Grassland   |
| <b>Root system</b>                 | Intact/uncut**   |
| <b>Reinforcing material</b>        | Bio-based, biodegradable netting   |
| <b>Substrate features</b>          | Contains Hydropor™ for greater moisture retention  |
| <b>Seed mix</b>                    | Calibrated using seed weight analysis  |

## How can I tell if a contractor has used Wildflower Turf®?

Peel up a corner and you should be able to see our white bio-based netting amongst the roots - no-one else uses a white membrane.

\* 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.

\*\* Growing system: Wildflower Turf® is a soil-free, whole root turf system that is nursery grown to produce a mat of wildflower plants that retains 100% of its root system. A biodegradable, plant-based netting is included within the turf to support the root structure and enable the turf to retain its structural integrity. More information.

# Species List

## Wildflower Turf® Low Grow

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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>Agrimony, Common (<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>)</b>     | June - Sept    | 80              | Yellow | P          |
| <b>Bedstraw, Hedge (<i>Galium album</i>)</b>             | June - Sept    | 100             | White  | P          |
| <b>Bedstraw, Lady's (<i>Galium verum</i>)</b>            | June - Sept    | 50              | Yellow | P          |
| <b>Burnet, Salad (<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>)</b>          | June - Aug     | 50              | Red    | P          |
| <b>Buttercup, Meadow (<i>Ranunculus acris</i>)</b>       | May - Aug      | 90              | Yellow | P          |
| <b>Catchfly, Nodding (<i>Silene pendula</i>)</b>         | June - Sept    | 50              | Pink   | A          |
| <b>Cats Ear (<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>)</b>            | June - Sept    | 60              | Yellow | P          |
| <b>Chamomile, Roman (<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>)</b>      | June - Aug     | 30              | White  | P          |
| <b>Clover, Strawberry (<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>)</b>  | May - Sept     | 50              | Pink   | P          |
| <b>Clover, Suckling (<i>Trifolium dubium</i>)</b>        | June - Aug     | 30              | Pink   | P          |
| <b>Clover, Red (<i>Trifolium pratense</i>)</b>           | May - Oct      | 40              | Yellow | A          |
| <b>Daisy, Lawn (<i>Bellis perennis</i>)</b>              | Mar - Oct      | 20              | White  | P          |
| <b>Forget-me-not, Field (<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>)</b>   | Apr - Sept     | 50              | Blue   | SLP        |
| <b>Fox &amp; Cubs (<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>)</b>      | June - Sept    | 40              | Orange | P          |
| <b>Marjoram, Wild (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>)</b>          | June - Aug     | 80              | Pink   | P          |
| <b>Medick, Black (<i>Medicago lupulina</i>)</b>          | Apr - July     | 60              | Yellow | P          |
| <b>Plantain, Ribwort (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>)</b>    | May - Aug      | 40              | White  | P          |
| <b>Plantain, Hoary (<i>Plantago media</i>)</b>           | Apr - Oct      | 60              | White  | P          |
| <b>Self Heal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>)</b>              | May - Sept     | 50              | Purple | P          |
| <b>Thyme, Common (<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>)</b>            | June - July    | 30              | Blue   | P          |
| <b>Vetch, Kidney (<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>)</b>       | June - Sept    | 60              | Yellow | P          |
| <b>Yellow Rattle (<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>)</b>           | May - July     | 50              | Yellow | A          |
| <b>Grasses</b>   |                |                 |        |            |
| <b>Crested Dogtail (<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>)</b>      | June - Aug     | 75              | Pink   | SLP        |
| <b>Fescue, Sheep's (<i>Festuca ovina</i>)</b>            | May - June     | 30              | Pink   | P          |
| <b>Annual Meadow Grass (<i>Poa annua</i>)</b>            | Year-round     | 30              | Green  | A          |
| <b>Quaking Grass (<i>Briza media</i>)</b>                | June - Aug     | 50              | Brown  | SLP        |
| <b>Smaller Cat's Tail (<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>)</b>     | June - Aug     | 60              | Brown  | P          |
| <b>Sweet Vernal Grass (<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>)</b> | May - June     | 70              | Yellow | SLP        |

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# Preparation and Installation

**For a project to thrive, correct installation and management plans must be planned for from the offset.**

## Soil Conditions and Fertility

Ensure soil is not waterlogged or compacted prior to laying the turf. The soil does not need to be fertilised before or after laying the turf. We would advise not stripping back the topsoil to reduce soil fertility before using Wildflower Turf® as it needs some level of fertility to get well-established initially and is an unnecessary ground preparation step. However, where soil is fertile, particular attention must be paid to the maintenance regime - see maintenance section.

## Soil Preparation

Existing vegetation should be killed or removed. Dig over or rotovate the soil to at least 100mm deep and rake over to create a reasonably fine tilth. Remove large stones, roots or clods of earth so that the roots of the plants in the turf are all in close contact with the soil. There is usually no need to import topsoil unless the levels on site are not sufficient or there is just sub-soil. In this case, a thin layer of 25-50mm (minimum) of low fertility topsoil is recommended. Avoid compaction of subsoil layer. Please contact Wildflower Co. if unsure.

## Laying the Turf

Turf should be laid on the day of delivery. The turf needs to be laid on a minimum of 100mm (4 inches) of growing medium or topsoil, the deeper the soil depth the greater capability of moisture retention and less irrigation required. Care should be taken to ensure that all joints are butted up correctly to prevent the growth of weeds. Use WFT-Finisher at this stage. Do not overlap the turf at the joints or create tension so joints pull apart or shrink.

## Watering

Once laid, water the turf thoroughly for the first couple of weeks (weather dependent), until the turf is rooted in. Ensure the soil underneath the turf is damp to be sure you have given it adequate water. Do this by lifting a corner of the turf. Do not allow the turf to dry out while it establishes, which should take approximately 2-3 weeks (weather dependent). Do not over water the turf, as this can promote grass domination in the sward. Once established the wildflowers can be fairly drought tolerant and shouldn't need watering again.

## BNG Considerations

To ensure condition assessment criteria are met, ensure cover of bare ground is between 1-5% and weed species such as bracken, bramble, thistle, dock, nettle, creeping buttercup, greater plantain, white clover and cow parsley are completely removed prior to installation. A post installation management plan must also be in place to ensure longevity of the habitat - [see maintenance plan](#).

# Maintenance

**For a project to thrive, correct installation and management plans must be planned for from the offset.**

## Fertiliser

No fertiliser is needed as this will encourage grasses and other potential weeds to dominate the area. If thought that fertiliser may be required for a specific site please contact Wildflower Co. for advice.

## Year 1 & 2 Maintenance

During the first year following installation, spring only, the growth must be kept down to 20cm by a series of short maintenance cuts throughout the early flowering season, typically April to June. This will aid control of spring weeds. Do not cut below 20cm as this will impact the development of low growing species. Use of a mower and collector is the most effective for these cuts. It is critical that all cuttings are removed from the site at each maintenance cut to ensure fertility is not increased. For summer or autumn sowing, the area can

be left to grow naturally in the first spring and throughout the flowering season. At the end of the flowering season, prior to the winter period, the area should be cut as detailed below.

In year 2 allow the meadow to grow naturally throughout the flowering period until the end of the season, do one final cut and remove in late September to early October to prepare for winter by cutting the meadow down to 2-3 inches (50-75mm) off the ground and remove all cuttings. Best practice for this is to reduce the bulk of the plant volume down through use of reciprocating blade, i.e. hedge trimmer, then go over with a mower and collector on maximum height. Make sure the tools are sharp. No cuttings should be left following the cut as this will increase the fertility in the area which encourages grasses and more dominant species to thrive. It is also important to remove all leaf litter that falls onto the area.

## Annual Maintenance

Unlike a traditional meadow, this is a species rich lawn which should be maintained with regular mowing. The maintenance regime for this is very simple, a cut and collect every 2-3 weeks. The cutting length is largely a matter of preference, you can go as short as you like or leave it longer for more prominent flowers. Remember, the longer you leave it uncut the more opportunity the wildflowers will have to emerge. However, to maintain it as a lawn, it must be cut at a minimum of every 4 weeks.

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