

Wildflower Turf®

Native Enriched

Product Specification

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Product Code:

WFT-Native-Enriched

Manufacturer:

Wildflower Co.

Manufacturer Contact Details

 01256 771 222

 wildflower@wildflowerexperts.com

 www.wildflowerexperts.com

Technical Specification

Manufacturer	Wildflower Co.
Turf dimensions	1m x 1.2m slabs or 0.77m x 1.62m rolls, 15-35mm thickness (depending on age)
Weight	16-20kg per metre.
No of species	58 (35 UK native wildflowers, 19 naturalised wildflowers and 4 non-invasive grasses. See full species list for further details.
Grass:flora sowing ratio	85% UK native wildflowers*, 15% grasses
Flowering period	March - October
Established height	30-150cm
Time to establish	2-3 months (at least 1 year for plants that need vernalisation period)
Soil types	Suitable for all soil types
Seed provenance and testing	Grown in England using UK native species. Seed analysis results available on request.
Recyclability	Packaging 100% recyclable, product 100% biodegradable
BNG suitability	Not suitable to BNG projects
Root system	Intact/uncut**
Reinforcing material	Bio-based, biodegradable netting
Seed mix	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

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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.

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Species	Flowering Time	Ultimate Height	Colour	Life Cycle
Wildflower species				
Autumn Hawkbit (<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>)	June - Oct	50		P
Babys Breath (<i>Gypsophila elegans</i>)	June - Aug	100		A
Betony (<i>Betonica officinalis</i>)	June - Aug	60		P
Birdsfoot Trefoil (<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>)	May - Sept	30		P
Bladder Campion (<i>Silene vulgaris</i>)	May - Sept	100		P
Borage (<i>Borago officinalis</i>)	May - Sept	60		A
Cats Ear (<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>)	June - Sept	45		P
Common/Cottage Pink (<i>Dianthus plumarius</i>)	May - July	50		P
Common Knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>)	June - Sept	100		P
Common Toadflax (<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>)	June - Nov	75		P
Common Vetch (<i>Vicia sativa</i>)	Apr - Sept	75		A
Common Poppy (<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>)	June - Aug	60		A
Corn Chamomile (<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>)	June - Sept	30		A
Corn Marigold (<i>Glebionis segetum</i>)	June - Oct	100		A
Corncockle (<i>Agrostemma githago</i>)	May - Sept	120		A
Cornflower (<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>)	June - Sept	100		A
Cowslip (<i>Primula veris</i>)	Apr - June	25		P
Crimson Clover (<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>)	June - Sept	50		A
Dames-violet (<i>Hepseris matronalis</i>)	May - July	90		BI
English (Pot) Marigold (<i>Calendula officinalis</i>)	June - Oct	50		BI
Field Forget-me-not (<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>)	Apr - Sept	40		SLP
Field Scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>)	July - Oct	150		P
Golden Candytuft (<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>)	Apr - May	30		A
Great/Large Bellflower (<i>Campanula latifolia</i>)	June - Aug	120		P
Greater Knapweed (<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>)	June - Sept	100		P
Hedge Bedstraw (<i>Galium album</i>) (prev. <i>mollugo</i>)	June - Sept	100		P
Hoary Plantain (<i>Plantago media</i>)	May - Aug	30		P
Kidney Vetch (<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>)	June - Sept	25		P
Lady's Bedstraw (<i>Galium verum</i>)	June - Sept	50		P
Larkspur (<i>Delphinium consolida</i>)	June - Sept	120		A
Meadow Cranesbill (<i>Geranium pratense</i>)	June - Sept	90		P
Mountain Madwort (<i>Alyssum montanum</i>)	May - July	15		P
Musk Mallow (<i>Malva moschata</i>)	July - Aug	100		P
Nodding Catchfly (<i>Silene pendula</i>)	June - Sept	50		A
Oxeye Daisy (<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>)	May - July	90		P
Perforate St John's Wort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>)	June - Aug	150		P

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Wildflower species				
Perennial Flax (<i>Linum perenne</i>)	May - June	60		P
Ragged Robin (<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>)	June - Aug	100		P
Red Campion (<i>Silene dioica</i>)	Apr - July	100		P
Ribwort Plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>)	Apr - Oct	90		P
Sainfoin (<i>Onobrychis vicifolia</i>)	June - Aug	80		P
Salad Burnet (<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>)	June - Aug	65		P
Self Heal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>)	May - Sept	30		P
Sweet William (<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>)	June - Sept	80		BI / SLP
Sweet William Catchfly (<i>Silene armeria</i>)	May - Sept	45		P
Tufted Vetch (<i>Vicia cracca</i>)	June - Aug	120		P
Viper's Bugloss (<i>Echium vulgare</i>)	June - Aug	120		BI
Wallflower (<i>Erysimum cheiri</i>)	Mar - June	50		BI / P
White Campion (<i>Silene latifolia</i>)	May - Sept	100		SLP
Wild Marjoram (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>)	June - Aug	100		P
Wild Red Clover (<i>Trifolium pratense</i>)	May - Sept	50		P
Woodland Sage (<i>Salvia nemorosa</i>)	June - Sept	80		P
Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	June - Aug	90		P
Yellow Rattle (<i>Rhinathus minor</i>)	May - July	50		SLP
Grasses				
Annual Meadow Grass (<i>Poa annua</i>)	Year-round	30		A
Quaking Grass (<i>Briza media</i>)	June - July	60		SLP
Sweet Vernal (<i>Anthoxanum odoratum</i>)	May - June	70		SLP
Yellow Oat Grass (<i>Trisetum flavascens</i>)	June - July	60		P

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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.

Wildflower turf should be well established within a few weeks and once established requires little maintenance other than an essential annual maintenance cut.

The cut is an important part of the meadow's life cycle and ensures re-growth and species diversity year-on-year. 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. Allow some regrowth of the cut area before cutting the second half, but aim to have finished all cutting by the end of the first week of October. Over time alternate the areas that are cut early and the areas that are left, as this will benefit species diversity.

It is important to cut the meadow down to 2-3 inches off the ground and remove all cuttings. This can be done by strimming and raking, or using a mower and collecting the cuttings. 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.

Managing for BNG

Ensure the sward height is varied throughout the year to provide microclimates for wildlife. Cover of bare ground should be kept between 1-5% and physical damage must account for less than 5% of the total area. Cover of species of sub-optimal condition (including thistles, dock, nettles, creeping buttercup, greater plantain, white clover and cow parsley) and scrub should be kept below 5%, and bracken cover should be kept below 20%. Weeds such as these can be managed through physical or chemical removal, being careful not to damage the surrounding plants.

Managing fertility

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, approx. 8-10 inches off the ground, 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 the 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.

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.

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