

LW11 Acidic Soils 80/20 Wildflower Meadow



LW11 contains twenty one native British wildflowers and grasses typically found in meadows in acidic areas.

Consisting of 80% grass and 20% wildflowers, LW11 creates a permanent meadow with flowers from May to October. Suitable for creating habitats in low pH soils, dominated by mineral or organic content such as heathland, peaty soils and moorland areas.

LW11 supports bees, butterflies and other pollinators as 86% of the wildflowers included in this mixture are recommended by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) as 'Perfect for Pollinators'.



Mixture Contents:

Common Name	Latin Name	Quantity	Flowers	Height	Type
1 Agrimony, Fragrant	<i>Agrimonia procera</i>	1%	Jun - Aug	80 - 150cm	Perennial
2 Bedstraw, Lady's	<i>Galium verum</i>	1%	Jun - Sep	50 - 80cm	Perennial
3 Betony	<i>Stachys officinalis</i>	1.2%	Jul - Sep	25 - 50cm	Perennial
4 Buttercup, Meadow	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	1.6%	May - Jun	30 - 100cm	Perennial
5 Cat's-ear, Common	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.4%	Jun - Oct	15 - 50cm	Perennial
6 Cornflower	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	0.8%	Jun - Oct	20 - 80cm	Annual
7 Daisy, Ox-eye	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	1%	May - Sep	20 - 100cm	Perennial
8 Foxglove, Wild	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	0.8%	Jun - Aug	50 - 100cm	Biennial
9 Knapweed, Common	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	1.4%	Jun - Sep	30 - 80cm	Perennial
10 Ragged Robin	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	0.8%	May - Aug	30 - 90cm	Perennial
11 Sage, Wood	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	0.6%	Jun - Oct	25 - 50cm	Perennial
12 Scabious, Devil's-bit	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	0.4%	Jul - Sep	50 - 80cm	Perennial
13 Sneezewort	<i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	1.2%	Jul - Sep	40 - 60cm	Perennial
14 Sorrel, Common	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	1%	May - Jul	30 - 100cm	Perennial
15 Sorrel, Sheep's	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	0.8%	May - Jul	20 - 40cm	Perennial
16 St John's-wort, Common	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	0.6%	Jun - Sep	30 - 90cm	Perennial
17 Trefoil, Bird's-foot	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	1%	Jun - Aug	10 - 40cm	Perennial
18 Trefoil, Greater Bird's-foot	<i>Lotus uliginosus</i>	0.8%	Jun - Aug	20 - 60cm	Perennial
19 Vetch, Tufted	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	1%	Jun - Sep	100 - 150cm	Perennial
20 Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	1.6%	Jun - Oct	20 - 100cm	Perennial
21 Yellow-rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	1%	Jun - Sep	25 - 50cm	Annual
Bent, Common	<i>Agrostis castellana</i>	4%		50 - 100cm	Grass
Bent, Creeping	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	3.2%		40 - 100cm	Grass
Crested Dogstail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	14.4%		30 - 60cm	Grass
Fescue, Sheeps	<i>Festuca ovina</i>	17.6%		15 - 50cm	Grass
Fescue, Slender Creeping Red	<i>Festuca rubra, litoralis</i>	22.4%		10 - 20cm	Grass
Meadow Grass, Smooth Stalked	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	4.8%		30 - 90cm	Grass
Sweet Vernal-grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	1.6%		30 - 60cm	Grass
Timothy, Small Leaved	<i>Phleum pratense ssp Bertolinii</i>	6.4%		50 - 100cm	Grass
Wavy Hair-grass	<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>	1.6%		22 - 45cm	Perennial
Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	4%		50 - 100cm	Grass

Contains:



Sowing Rate: 5g/sqm

Wildflower seed in Landlife Wildflowers mixtures is of UK native origin.

The definition of UK native seed provided by Natural England is: *British native-origin seed refers to seed originally collected from wild populations in Great Britain (from sites with no known history of sowing of amenity or agricultural varieties) and either sown directly, or grown on as a field crop to provide further seed. It includes seed collected in 'green hay'. It excludes certified amenity or agricultural varieties of native species.*

Landlife Wildflowers UK native wildflower seed is sourced in two ways:

1) Seed collections from the wild which are field sown or sown in modules before being field planted as spaced plants. These are then harvested and cleaned to increase seed germination, vigour and purity.

2) Meadow collections are taken with owner permission or under license if the meadow is within a registered area. These seeds are then processed to remove excessive admixture and graded so they can be used in measurable amounts in prescribed mixtures.

Contents of wildflower mixtures will vary according to seed and species availability

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Prepare the Ground

LW11 Acidic Soils Wildflower Meadow seed mixture performs best in low nutrient soils, which haven't been heavily fertilised in the past. For best results sow into bare soil after clearing all existing plants and weeds from the area.

Cultivate the ground to a depth of 10cm to relieve compaction and create a fine level tilth, free from obstructions (to allow for mowing at a later stage). Finish the seedbed by treading or lightly rolling the area, so that it is firm enough to stand on without leaving indentations.

Where weeds have been prevalent, allow a flush of weeds to germinate and remove these before sowing. In areas of high fertility, it may be necessary to remove the topsoil and sow into the subsoil. High nutrient soils encourage weeds and fast growing grasses which may outcompete the wildflowers in this mixture.

For overseeding into existing grassland, use a pure wildflower seed mixture such as LW11 or LWRE.

Sowing

LW11 should be sown between March and November. Spring and autumn provide ideal conditions as moisture and warmth are in good supply.

Distribute seed with a handheld or pedestrian spreader, at the recommended sowing rate of 5g/sqm. Mix the wildflower seeds with an inert carrier (such as sharp sand), at a ratio of four parts sand to one part seed (by weight). This makes it easier to achieve an even distribution and also provides a visual marker, making it easier to see any missed patches and avoid seeding areas twice.

Regularly mix the seed when sowing, as seeds will naturally separate due to variations in size and weight.

Once sown, ensure good 'seed to soil' contact by lightly raking to a depth of 0.5cm or rolling the area.

It is also possible to broadcast, drill or hydroseed this mixture for larger or hard to reach areas. However, broadcast spreading throws heavier seeds further so this may impact the distribution and when drilling, the seed must not be buried deeper than 0.7cm.

Sowing Rate

The sowing rate of 5g/sqm is designed to produce optimum results. Reducing the sowing rate is likely to result in invasion from weed species. Increasing the sowing rate generally leads to reduced diversity as the more aggressive species will outcompete slower growing plants.

Maintenance First Year

LW11 contains many perennial species, which can be slow to establish and are unlikely to flower in the first year. Therefore it is important to control weed and grass growth in year one.

During the first year remove any weeds which grow before they run to seed, either by topping, mowing or by hand for smaller areas. Weed growth is common due to the action of disturbing the ground (rather than being caused by contaminated seed mixtures).

The nurse grasses are the first to grow and require topping or mowing in March and again in May. Remove all clippings to ensure the grass canopy doesn't interfere with the germination and spring growth of the wildflowers.

In September / October cut the area to 10cm using a scythe, strimmer or mower, leaving the cuttings for up to a week before removing. This allows them to dry and shed seeds back into the soil. Mow or graze the re-growth through autumn/winter and again in early spring if needed.

Second Year

After twelve months the sward should be well established. Simply follow the same cutting pattern (in March and September/October). Avoid cutting from mid spring to summer to ensure best flowering results.

As an ongoing process, remove and remove any weeds which invade the area.

Over time, some species within the mixture may become more dominant due to environmental factors and natural selection. To encourage diversity, simply reduce the number of dominant plants in order to restore the balance. In some areas with more dominant grasses, it may be necessary to overseed occasionally with a pure wildflower mixture such as LW11 or LWRE to ensure the wildflowers remain competitive.



As members of Flora Locale, Landlife Wildflowers follows a strict code of practice to ensure wildflower seed is of UK native origin and is harvested and grown responsibly to aid conservation and help protect native UK wild plants.



In LW11 86% of the wildflower species included are recognised by the Royal Horticultural Society as supporting many of the 1500 species of pollinating insects across the UK.

For information on this or any other mixtures in the Landlife Wildflowers range, contact us on 01205 281 902 or email info@wildflower.co.uk