

Need Help?



We are always happy to help our customers achieve the perfect Pictorial Meadow and would be happy to discuss individual projects so please get in touch:

By E Mail: info@pictorialmeadows.co.uk

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Annuals

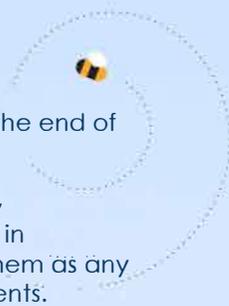
Pictorial Meadows Ltd
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Sheffield, S2 1UL



Sowing times and conditions:

When: Sow in spring as the soil begins to warm up from March until the end of May.

Where: Any open and sunny spot. PM Meadow seed mixes will grow happily in a wide range of garden soils– they DO NOT need to grow in impoverished soils where the topsoil has been removed. Consider them as any other flowering garden plant with regard to their growing requirements.



Ground Preparation:

Weeds: Crucial to the success of the meadow is the cleanliness of the site prior to sowing. You need to achieve a very clean, weed-free seed bed and in particular you need to ensure that you have removed all the perennial weeds and any grass. Selective herbicide treatment is recommended but you could also achieve the same goal through very careful physical weeding. You might have to repeat this 'cleansing' process several times as re-growth of weeds occurs. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when handling herbicide.

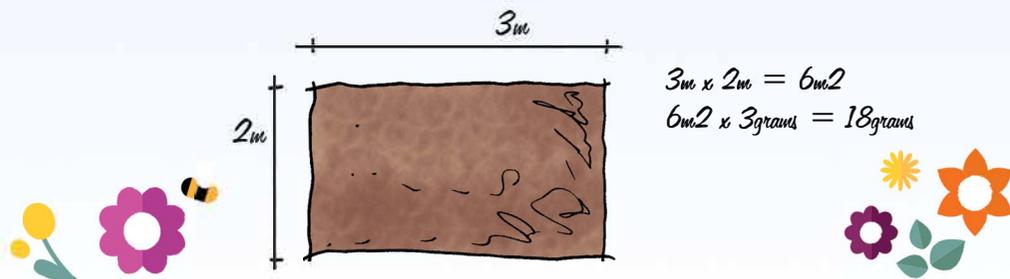
Soil Preparation: By digging over and rotavating the soil you should aim to create a fine tilth for the seed to be sown on to. Remember though that when you dig over the soil you will expose fresh weed seeds so you will have to kill off or remove these weeds prior to sowing.

Sowing:

Sowing Rate: Annual meadow mixes should be sown at 3g per square metre.

Measuring your Plot: To calculate how much seed you will need, measure the length and breadth of your plot and work out the following simple calculation:

Length (metres) x Breadth (metres) = ? Square Metres x 3 = Required Grams



How to Sow: We recommend you mix the seed with sharp sand (5parts sand to 1 part seed) to help you distribute it evenly over the area – and most importantly to show you where you have sown the seed. You should ensure that the sand and seed is very thoroughly mixed and that you spread across the whole area – preferably by scattering in two different directions.

We don't recommend using any mechanical seed spreaders to sow our mixes seed as they do not distribute mixed seed sizes evenly.

Sow the seed/sand mixture on the surface of the fine tilth you have created on the soil. It is important that you do not cover the seeds.

Rolling and Watering:

How: It is very important to lightly firm the seed/sand mixture into the soil. You can use an ordinary garden roller, the back of a spade or simply the weight of your feet to achieve this.

Water: There is no requirement in the UK to irrigate our annual meadows – however some light watering will help to establish the meadow if the weather is very dry following sowing.

Establishment and Maintenance:

Growth: Germination can take place quite rapidly (within 7 to 10 days) as long as there is sufficient moisture and warmth in the soil.

Weeding: There will be some incursion of weeds into the meadow during the season but if you have cleaned the soil properly before sowing there shouldn't be an issue with troublesome perennial weeds such as Nettles, Docks and Thistles. Hand weeding the obvious weeds may be necessary but other than that there should no requirement for any form or intervention.

End of Season: The meadows could flower right through until November/ December if the weather remains mild. At this point you can clear away the dead and dying stems or if you prefer you can leave them as winter quarters for insects and other wildlife.

Next Year: We always recommend that if you want to enjoy an annual Pictorial Meadow you really need to sow a fresh mixture every spring. If you have enjoyed your meadow there will be some re-seeding of some of the species from the mix the following year – however because these are not native wildflowers many seeds will not survive a UK winter so the display will be very poor.

