





Wildflower Seed

John Chambers Wildflower Seed

John Chambers Wildflower Seed has a 35 year history of supplying native British produced wildflower seed and mixes to landscapers, architects and garden designers across the UK. We are one of the leading authorities on native wildflower seed, distributing a comprehensive range of products to enhance and improve the landscape environment and encourage biodiversity.



Meeting the Specification

John Chambers Wildflower Seed works with landscape architects and ecologists across the UK to create bespoke wildflower mixes that meet specific criteria. The team takes time to consider biodiversity, location, flowering periods and project aspirations before it creates a mix suitable for a specification.

British Native

John Chambers Wildflower Seed specialises in British Native wildflower seed, sourcing seed from growers that are long established and stringent in their collection processes.

Wildflower Environments

Wildflower spaces have increased in importance over recent years in both rural and urban environments. It's not just wildflower lovers but landscapers, landscape architects, farmers, conservationists and ecologists who recognise the benefits of wildflowers.

Ecology and Environmental Benefits

Wildflowers bring many benefits, they provide a critical habitat for pollinators and support beneficial insects and wildlife, which is extremely important for the eco-system function and pollination. Wildflowers assist with improving soil health, preventing erosion, improving water quality, increasing yields and enhancing forage conditions for livestock. They enable you to create an eco-friendly area to attract wildlife and develop and maintain the health of your wildflower meadow/area.

Our Standards



John Chambers operates within the Flora Locale

framework abiding by the strict standards on promoting and maintaining the restoration of wild plants for biodiversity, landscapes and people.

Applications

Contents

Wildflowers are one of the most versatile and simple additions to any landscape project. They can offer impact whether in an urban or rural environment. Wildflowers require a relatively low maintenance schedule and can be applied with ease to a small or large project area, offering versatility for landscape architects and specifiers.

For more information on previous projects we have worked on, please contact sales@johnchamberswildflowers.co.uk



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Selecting the right wildflower mix

Differences between a 100% wildflower mix and an 80/20% wildflower and grass seed mix

100% Wildflower Mixes	80/20 Mixes
Contains 100% wildflower seed and no grasses.	Contains 80% grass seed and 20% wildflower seed.
Sow into bare soil. Can be sown into existing grassed areas but needs the correct preparation and ongoing maintenance.	Sow into bare soil.
Creates an ornamental flower bed-style display of wildflowers as opposed to a traditional meadow.	Used for large-scale sowings to create traditional wildflower meadows with grasses blended into the display.
A low maintenance option, only requiring one cut per year at the end of the flowering season. No need for mid- Summer maintenance cuts.	A low maintenance option from Year 2 onwards as long as Year 1 maintenance is correctly carried out.
Sowing 100% mixes into clean, bare soil gives the wildflowers a better chance to establish successfully as there is no competition from grasses and unwanted weeds.	80/20 mixes are more cost effective* compared to the 100% wildflower mix.
Benefits the biodiversity and ecology of the area, attracting pollinators and other wildlife.	Attracts pollinators and wildlife as well as offering more cover for small mammals, birds and invertebrates.

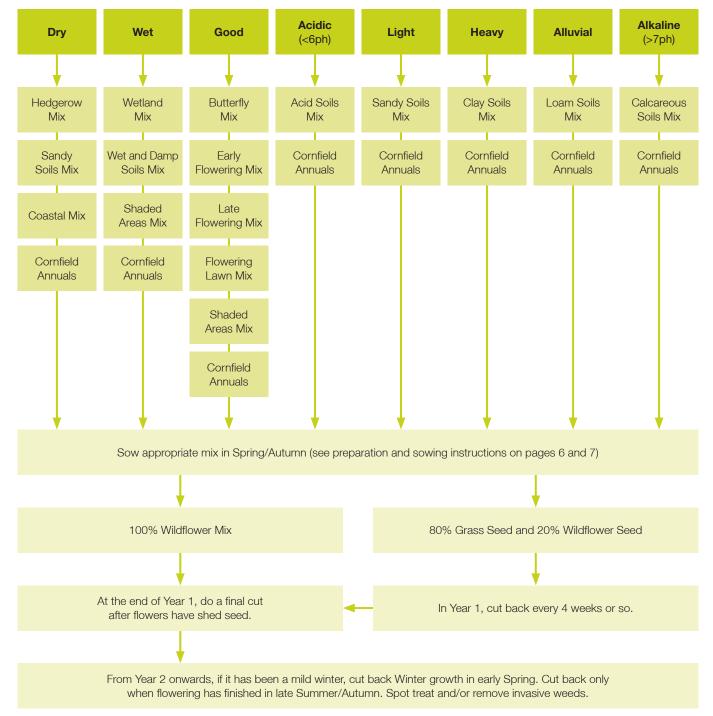
*If the correct maintenance procedures are carried out.

Perennial or Annual species?

The majority of wildflower mixes contain predominantly perennial species. This is where the plants will die back after flowering, produce seeds and will re-grow from the same plant the following year. Most native perennials will need to use the first year to establish before flowering from the second year onwards. Perennials are a long-term option, if looked after correctly they can last years. Perennials are often chosen because they don't need to be planted every year and they are most commonly used on large areas that are reserved specifically for wildflower meadows.

Annuals are an effective way to introduce fast colour to an area. The plant will die after it has flowered and produced seeds, from which new plants will grow each year. Most seeds produced from annual species will only germinate if the soil is disturbed after removing the spent plants (ie. re-cultivated). Annuals normally require re-sowing with a fresh seed mix every year to keep a strong, colourful display (or every two years at worst). Annuals are a shortterm option; they are often chosen due to their appearance and ability to bloom within the first year. Because annuals need to be planted annually, they allow you to switch up your wildflower mix year on year with different species.

Wildflower Seed



What soil type does your site have?

Sowing and Maintenance



Sowing Times

Sowing is recommended to be carried out either in the Spring or Autumn, depending on the programme of works for each individual project. The main difference between the two seasons for sowing is that an Autumn sowing will allow the seeds with a harder shell to be softened through the regular freeze/defrost pattern of Winter, which promotes germination across a broader range of species when the Spring comes around.

A Spring sowing will still perform perfectly well, although the harder-shelled seeds will sit dormant, waiting for the Winter, when they will go through the above process in order to germinate the following Spring.

If an Autumn sowing can be planned into the project, this tends to be the most effective for best results in the first 12 – 18 months of establishment. A Spring sowing will effectively delay germination of some species.

Sowing into Bare Soil

100% Wildflower Mixes (sowing rate 1 – 2g/m²)

For the best results, sow 100% wildflower mixes into prepared, weed-free soil following the sowing instructions on page 7. You may add 1 or 2g/m² of Cornfield Annuals to the mix for extra first year colour, as some perennial species will not flower until the 2nd year.

Grass and Wildflower Seed Mixes (sowing rate 4 – 5g/m²)

Follow the sowing instructions on page 7. Due to the maintenance required in the first year to establish perennial wildflower seed, expect most of these species to flower in the second year. In the first growing year, every 4 weeks, cut all growth back to 60 – 70mm, this will give the slowergrowing perennial wildflowers the chance to establish. If sown with annuals, after flowering, cutting-back should stimulate a second flush later in the year.

Sowing into Existing Grassed Areas

100% Wildflower Mixes (sowing rate 1 – 2g/m²)

Sowing wildflower seed into established areas of grass will vary in degree of success. For best results, sow either a 100% wildflower seed mix or an 80% grass/20% wildflower mix into prepared, weed-free soil using the sowing instructions on page 7.



Before: Preparation for sowing

Wildflower Seed

Sowing Instructions

- The sowing area should be cleared of vegetation prior to sowing the seed (spraying off a few weeks before sowing or by other means.) Repeat twice or more if possible before sowing.
- Prepare a fine seed bed and sow lightly at the correct sowing rate, evenly, either manually or by mechanical means (drilled, hydro-seeded etc). You can mix the seed with fine, dry sand or sawdust to bulk out the mix and make it easier to sow.
- To ensure good contact between the seed and moisture in the soil, the sown area should be lightly pressed down either by a light roller or other methods, depending on the type of area. It is important that the seed does not dry out,

so it will be beneficial to water the area in the first few weeks if dry weather prevails.

- In Year 1, 80/20 mixes should be cut back every 4 weeks or so, to suppress grasses and assist perennial wildflower species in their establishment.
- At the end of the Summer or in early Autumn, make a final cut after flowers have shed their seed, collect and remove cuttings*. No maintenance required during Winter.
- 6. From Year 2 onwards, you may wish to cut back any winter growth in early Spring, removing the cuttings afterwards*. The area can be left to grow throughout the flowering season and cut back only when flowering has

finished and seed has been shed at the end of Summer or early Autumn. As the area establishes, the wildflowers will strengthen and proliferate, giving a stronger display year-on-year.

7. Spot treat or remove invasive weeds, as required.

*Habitat Piles

If removal of cuttings from site is problematic, you may be able to create 'habitat piles' in strategic areas around the edges of site. This can provide a valuable habitat for small mammals and invertebrates.



After: End result



CPD Seminars

John Chambers Wildflower Seed

Understand the benefits of using wildflower seed in projects, and the factors to consider when choosing a wildflower mix. We'll take you through the considerations surrounding soil type and environment; conservation and the impact on biodiversity.

Learn about the rich heritage of the British Native wildflower industry, and how since the 1970s, John Chambers has been at the forefront in championing the use of home-grown species. We cover:

- The changing landscape of the UK countryside
- Seed supply and provenance
- The importance of the correct balance of grass vs wildflower
- Seed mix specifications: Urban / Rural / Green Roof / Custom / Matting
- Bees and pollinators
- Land preparation and sowing advice
- Ongoing maintenance
- Q&A session



Book your CPD online today at www.gtspecifier.co.uk or contact us on 01423 332 114

Other available CPD Seminars:

// Green Roof Systems

Learn why green roofs are widely recognised as one of the most effective methods of urban greening, and how they can reduce a project's ecological impact.

// Urban Tree Planting System

Provides cost effective support and protection for the pavement above, and guards against soil compaction. Understand how the TreeParker System allows the tree to establish natural, healthy growth in the upper, aerobic soil area, whilst protecting the hard landscaping above.

// The Green-tree Guide to Good Soils

The difference between natural, screened and manufactured soil. Explore the different soil types within the UK and discover how not all topsoils are created equal.

// Effective Tree and Plant Irrigation

Considerations to make when installing an irrigation system. Discover a simple, efficient and cost-effective way to give your trees and shrubs the best start, whilst reducing on-going maintenance costs.

// Tree Anchoring Systems

The benefits of tree anchoring systems and effective installation. How to anchor trees safely and securely without the need for unsightly or damaging tree stakes.

// A Resin-bound Tree Pit Installation

Providing a low maintenance, permeable finish to your project. See how the right treatment can add an aesthetically pleasing, sturdy and permeable surface finish to your tree pits.

Case Study: Wick Community Campus Project, Caithness



A £48m Wick Campus project; part of the Scottish Government 'Scotland's Schools for the Future programme' was commissioned by the Highland Council to replace the previous Wick High School and consolidate a number of existing primary schools, a nursery, sports facilities, a community library and swimming pool; into one integrated community facility.

The 17,500m² campus was formally called the East Caithness Community Campus was officially launched in Summer 2018. Ashlea Limited, one of the UK's largest privately-owned commercial landscaping companies, is part of the supply chain for Morrison Construction and has undertaken the soft landscaping to a number of schools in the central belt of Scotland and in the Highlands. They were awarded the contract for soft landscaping which included wildflower seeding around the extensive grounds of Wick Campus. They turned to leading landscape provider Green-tech who supplied over 300kg of John Chambers Wildflower Seed for phase 2 of the project, including a specialist BREEAM species rich lawn mix, compost, tree stakes, cross bars, belting and blocks.

John Chambers Wildflower Seed sources seed from long established growers who are stringent in their collection processes; it is cleaned by hand, a labour-intensive process that achieves the highest quality standards. The team of specially trained seed cleaners only dispatch the best seed that ensures optimum growth.

As well as the standard mixes, the team at John Chambers Wildflower Seed work with landscape architects and ecologists across the UK to create bespoke wildflower mixes that meet specific criteria, considering biodiversity, location, flowering periods and project aspirations before it creates a mix suitable for a specification.

The establishment of the flowering lawn has been excellent, one of the best we have ever seen. Being so far north in Scotland the site is subject to ever changing weather conditions and an almost constant wind. It has been a pleasure to work on this project and we always turn to Green-tech as our landscape supplier. They always supply what we need; when we need it; at the most competitive prices. Their John Chambers Wildflower Seed is hand prepared and of excellent quality. We have used their seed on many other projects; always with outstanding results.

Stuart Simpson, Director of Ashlea Limited

Hedgerow Mix

A mix of perennials and biennials that thrive in dry conditions with partial shade and sheltered areas where existing tree and hedge roots absorb moisture within the soil.



Specification

Soil type	Dry
Maximum height	200cm
Flowering period	May – October
Coverage	1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennials/Biennials

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Recipe

Knapweed; Common	9.50%
Campion; Red	8.50%
Mustard; Garlic	8.50%
Teasel	8.50%
Selfheal	7.50%
Avens; Wood	6.50%
Chervil; Rough	6.50%
Bedstraw; Hedge	6.00%
Mallow; Common	6.00%
Daisy; Oxeye	5.50%

4.50%
4.50%
4.00%
3.50%
2.50%
2.00%
2.00%
1.50%
1.50%
1.00%



In this mix: Foxglove Digitalis purpura

Foxglove is one of the most distinctive hedgerow plants, with its tall spire of bright pink flowers. Naturally found in woodland clearings, hedges and areas of soil disturbance. Individual flowers can be up to 6cm long, with mottled or spotted insides. Regularly visited by bumblebees, this is an important food plant for them. Foxgloves add structure to the wildflower canopy with a flash of colour.

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Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable 5 highlighted icons = More suitable

Clay Soils Mix

Made up of perennials, biennials and annuals, this mix accommodates plants that thrive in heavy clay soils. Clay soils can be found in dry conditions as well as wet, boggy conditions which the plants in the recipe can adapt to.



Specification

Soil type		Heavy
Maximum h	eight	150cm
Flowering p	eriod	April – September
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perenn	ials/Biennials/Annuals

Shade	$\bigcirc \bigcirc $
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	***
Pollinator forage	${\color{black} {\color{black} {\color{blac} {\color{black} {\color{black} {\color{black} {bl$

Recipe

Burnet; Salad	9.50%
Buttercup; Meadow	8.50%
Knapweed; Common	8.00%
Medick; Black	6.50%
Plantain; Ribwort	6.50%
Carrot; Wild	6.00%
Yellow-rattle	6.00%
Bedstraw; Lady's	5.50%
Daisy; Oxeye	5.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	5.00%

Sorrel; Common	5.00%
Vetch; Kidney	5.00%
Knapweed; Greater	4.50%
Selfheal	4.50%
Cat's-ear	3.50%
Hawkbit; Rough	3.50%
Yarrow	3.50%
Plantain; Hoary	1.50%
Crane's-bill; Meadow	1.00%
Cowslip	1.00%



In this mix: Meadow Crane's-bill Geranium pretense

Meadow Crane's-bill is a violet or blue flower, often found naturally in damp lowland hay meadows, stream sides and road verges. It is also often a popular addition in residential gardens, coping well with different soils, including clay. It is often visited by bees, making it a good flower to include to benefit pollinators.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	Up to 55cm
Colour	Violet/Blue
Flowering period	June – September
Soil Clay	y, Loam, Limestone
рН	Neutral, Acid
Moisture	Moist to Wet

All wildflower seed mixes are subject to change dependent on time of year and harvest.

Early Flowering Mix

A selection of perennials, biennials and annuals, suited to good, well-drained soils to create a Spring/Summer display in gardens and feature beds.



Specification

Soil type		Good
Maximum h	eight	150cm
Flowering p	eriod	March – August
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennia	als/Biennials/Annuals

Shade	(a) (b) (b) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	** ** ** **
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Burnet; Salad	8.25%
Buttercup; Meadow	8.00%
Medick; Black	7.50%
Mustard; Garlic	7.50%
Campion; Red	6.50%
Campion; White	6.00%
Yellow-rattle	6.00%
Daisy; Oxeye	5.75%
Clover; Red	5.50%
Vetch; Common	5.00%
Sainfoin	5.00%
Vetch; Kidney	4.50%
Clover; White	4.00%

Sorrel; Common	4.00%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	3.00%
Dandelion; Common	2.50%
Cat's-ear	2.00%
Mignonette; Wild	2.00%
Ragged-robin	1.50%
Cowslip	1.00%
Forget-me-not; Field	1.00%
Mouse-ear; Common	1.00%
Pansy; Wild	1.00%
Plantain; Hoary	1.00%
Daisy	0.25%
Speedwell; Heath	0.25%



In this mix: Cowslip Primula veris

These yellow flowers are one of the earliest flowering, providing a vital early food source for insects as well as some attractive early colour. Cowslip was once a common sight in meadows, but is now rarer with its natural distribution decreasing to road verges and hedgerows.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	Up to 25cm
Colour	Yellow
Flowering period	April – May
Soil	Clay, Limestone
рН	Neutral to Alkaline
Moisture	Dry to Moist

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable | 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Late Flowering Mix

Contains perennials, biennials and annuals that bring a Summer/Autumn display to open spaces with well-drained soils such as meadows and public spaces.



Specification

Soil type		Good
Maximum h	eight	150cm
Flowering p	eriod	May – October
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennia	ls/Biennials/Annuals

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Recipe

Vetch; Common	11.00%
Agrimony	9.00%
Plantain; Ribwort	7.00%
Buttercup; Meadow	6.50%
Knapweed; Common	6.50%
Medick; Black	5.50%
Selfheal	5.50%
Scabious; Field	5.00%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	4.50%
Carrot; Wild	4.50%
Vetch; Kidney	4.00%
Soapwort	4.00%
Daisy; Oxeye	3.50%
Yarrow	3.50%

Knapweed; Greater	3.00%
Bedstraw; Hedge	2.50%
Bedstraw; Lady's	2.50%
Evening-primrose; Common	2.50%
Hawkbit; Autumn	2.00%
Mignonette; Wild	2.00%
Scabious; Small	2.00%
Basil; Wild	1.00%
St John's-wort; Perforate	1.00%
Bellflower; Clustered	0.50%
Marjoram; Wild	0.50%
Daisy	0.25%
Harebell	0.25%

All wildflower seed mixes are subject to change dependent on time of year and harvest.



In this mix: Yarrow Achillia millefolium

Yarrow has fine feathery green leaves with large clustered flower heads on tall stems. The flowers are mostly white but can become slightly pink. A good general-purpose late flowering species which can cope with waste ground and can be used for restoring arable grassland. A valuable flower for native wildlife, which enjoys sunny areas.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	8 – 50cm
Colour	White, occasionally dusty pink
Flowering period	June – November
Soil Sa	and, Clay, Limestone
рН	Neutral
Moisture	Dry to Wet

Acid Soils Mix

A mix which incorporates perennials, biennials and annuals suited to moderately acidic soils (pH 4 - 5.5). Acidic soils are often found in pine forests and peat bogs or where leaching occurs due to excessive rainfall.



Specification

Soil type		Moderately Acidio	
Maximum h	eight	200cm	
Flowering p	eriod	April – September	
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²	
Frequency	Perenn	ials/Biennials/Annuals	

Shade	() () () () ()
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	** ** ** **
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Vetch; Common	14.00%
Bluebell; English	9.50%
Marigold; Corn	8.50%
Vetch; Tufted	8.25%
Chicory	8.00%
Clover; White	8.00%
Cornflower	7.50%
Poppy; Field	7.00%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	5.00%
Heather	3.50%
Trefoil; Lesser	3.50%

3.00%
3.00%
3.00%
2.50%
2.00%
2.00%
0.75%
0.50%
0.25%
0.25%



In this mix: Heather Calluna vulgaris

Heather is a distinctive sight in the natural landscape, with its dark green foliage and pink and purple flowers. It thrives on acidic soils, and when included in a wildflower mix provides an extra bit of winter colour and coverage. Heather is a hardy plant that can cope with exposed conditions, while providing food for butterflies and caterpillars.

Frequency	Evergreen
Height	20 – 50cm
Colour	Pink/Purple
Flowering peri	iod August to October
Soil	Sand, Clay, Loam
pН	Acid
Moisture	Moist but Well-drained

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable | 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Wildflower Seed

Calcareous Soils Mix

Consisting of perennials, biennials and annuals, this mix is most suited to all alkaline soils (pH above 7). Alkaline soils are often found in dense forests and locations where rainfall is slim.



Specification

Soil type		Alkaline
Maximum h	eight	150cm
Flowering p	eriod	May – October
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennia	ls/Biennials/Annuals

Recipe

Burnet; Salad	9.50%
Agrimony	9.00%
Knapweed; Common	8.50%
Medick; Black	7.50%
Yellow-rattle or Hay-rattle	7.00%
Carrot; Wild	6.50%
Selfheal	6.50%
Bedstraw; Lady's	6.00%
Scabious; Field	6.00%
Daisy; Oxeye	5.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	5.00%

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Vetch; Kidney	5.00%
Yarrow	4.00%
Knapweed; Greater	3.00%
Scabious; Small	3.00%
Hawkbit; Rough	2.00%
Mignonette; Wild	2.00%
Basil; Wild	1.50%
Plantain; Hoary	1.50%
Cowslip	1.00%



In this mix: Agrimony Agrimonia eupatoria

Agrimony has distinctive tall slender stems with yellow flowers running up the length, creating a spire like structure. It thrives in sunny areas and especially on calcareous soils, and adds some height to the flower canopy. The flowers are a valuable nectar source in the summer, while the seeds are a useful food supply for birds in the autumn.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	Up to 60cm
Colour	Yellow
Flowering period	July – September
Soil	Clay, Limestone
рН	Alkaline
Moisture	Dry to Moist

All wildflower seed mixes are subject to change dependent on time of year and harvest.

Wet and Damp Soils Mix

Contains plants for wet and damp soils which need moist, permanently wet, boggy ground with poor-drainage.



Specification

Soil type	Wet
Maximum height	150cm
Flowering period	April – September
Coverage	1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennials

Shade	(P) (P) (P) (P) (P)
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	** ** ** **
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Iris; Yellow	19.50%
Buttercup; Meadow	9.50%
Campion; Red	9.00%
Vetch; Tufted	8.00%
Meadowsweet	7.50%
Avens; Water	6.00%
Mallow; Musk	6.00%
Angelica; Wild	5.50%
Ramsons	4.00%
Scabious; Devil's-bit	4.00%
Gipsywort	3.50%

Sneezewort	3.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Greater	2.00%
Purple; Loosestrife	2.00%
Ragged-robin	2.00%
St John's-wort; Square-stalked	2.00%
Fleabane; Common	1.50%
Hemp; Agrimony	1.50%
Columbine	1.00%
Hemp-nettle; Common	1.00%
Figwort; Common	1.00%



In this mix: Purple Loosestrife Lythrum salicaria

Purple Loosestrife is naturally found in fens, marshes and reedbeds, so is a good addition to any wet or damp soil area such as around ponds. Its spikes of bright pink flowers stand out against its green foliage. It can have multiple stems from a single root stock, and provides food for brimstone butterflies, elephant hawk moths and red-tailed bumblebees.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	Up to 120cm
Colour	Purple/Pink
Flowering period	June – August
Soil	Loam, Clay
рН	Acid – Alkaline
Moisture	Poorly-drained

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable | 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Wildflower Seed

Shaded Areas Mix

Incorporating perennials, biennials and annuals, this mix performs well in good and damp conditions plus shaded and partially shaded areas. Shaded Areas Mix is particularly suitable for use in woodland areas.



Specification

Soil type		Good/Damp	
Maximum height		150cm	
Flowering p	eriod	April – September	
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²	
Frequency	Perennials/Biennials/Annuals		

Shade	$\mathbf{\Theta} \mathbf{\Theta} \mathbf{\Theta} \mathbf{\Theta} \mathbf{\Theta}$
Sun	$\bigcirc \bigcirc $
Drainage	00000
Colours	*** ** ** *** ***
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Agrimony	10.00%
Mustard; Garlic	8.50%
Bluebell; English	7.50%
Campion; Red	7.50%
Vetch; Tufted	7.50%
Avens; Wood	6.00%
Hedge-parsley; Upright	6.00%
Selfheal	6.00%
Bedstraw; Hedge	5.50%
Meadowsweet	5.50%
Angelica; Wild	4.50%
Woundwort; Hedge	4.50%

Ramsons	4.00%
Foxglove	2.75%
Betony	2.50%
Ragged-robin	2.50%
St John's-wort; Perforate	2.00%
Bellflower; Nettle-leaved	1.50%
Hemp-nettle; Common	1.50%
Sage; Wood	1.50%
Columbine	1.25%
Stitchwort; Greater	1.00%
Primrose	0.50%



In this mix: Ragged-robin Lychinis flos-cuculi

Ragged-robin has clustered pink flowers with deeply divided petals, giving it its ragged name and appearance. The leaves are narrow and grass like. It will grow well in damp and shaded areas, and will help to attract butterflies and bumblebees wherever it is sown.

Frequency	Perennial	
Height	Up to 50cm	
Colour:	Pink	
Flowering period	May – June	
Soil	Gravel, Loam, Clay	
рН	Neutral	
Moisture	Moist to Wet	

All wildflower seed mixes are subject to change dependent on time of year and harvest.



Feature: Yellow-rattle

Yellow-rattle is a native annual wildflower species that is considered to be one of the most important plants when creating a wildflower meadow. It is semi-parasitic, feeding on grass roots allowing wildflowers to establish. Without Yellow-rattle or a regular maintenance regime, vigorous grasses can grow unchecked and smother the flowers you want to encourage.

Including Yellow-rattle in a wildflower mix will help to suppress grasses, creating a healthy balance between grass and wildflowers which makes for a beautiful wildflower display.

Being an annual species, the Yellow-rattle plant will die away at the end of their one-year life cycle. It is a proficient selfseeder and should be allowed to drop seeds before spent plants are removed; leaving gaps where new and upcoming wildflowers will establish and grow.

Sowing Instructions

Sow in late Summer/Autumn while the seed is fresh. It requires a prolonged period of chill to germinate (ie. Winter).

- Cut back the existing grass/spent wildflowers, taking care not to damage perennial species.
- If sowing into an existing grass sward using a rake, scrape the soil surface to rough it up.
- Sow at a rate of approx. 0.5g to 1g per m², but this doesn't have to be precise.
- 4. Tread or roll it in to ensure seeds have contact with soil.
- 5. Water it so it doesn't dry out, or if it is due to rain, let nature take over.



info@gtspecifier.co.uk

Case Study: York University, North Yorkshire



York University's main campus underwent a £750m campus expansion programme which included developing the landscape of the Heslington East campus, a site now supporting growing populations of wildlife and wildflowers.

The University has a team of 25 grounds staff headed up by Grounds Maintenance Manager, Gordon Eastham. They are responsible for maintaining the 500 acre parkland campus, plus grounds at the Kings Manor site with a year-round programme of planting, pruning and grass cutting.

As part of the expansion programme, Gordon and his team were tasked with supporting the biodiversity of the campus to make sure it is a suitable habitat for wildlife and wildflowers, whilst making it look attractive for students and visitors.

The John Chambers Wildflower Seed team were contact and did some on site visits and advised on species, campus ground conditions and wildlife goals before supplying the most appropriate seed to be planted around the campus, which made up around 10% of the university estate. The John Chambers Conservation Best 6 Annuals Mix featured heavily in the planting scheme and produced a spectacular display of colour. The mix includes Poppy, Cornflower and Marigold; the different colours and flowering habits are exceptionally complimentary to each other which produced a showy and colourful combination.

The campus has been in full bloom and been well received. Wentworth Way roundabout, in particular, has proved so popular that several residents have taken it upon themselves to write to the regional newspaper, the York Press. They covered the story about the "absolutely stunning wildflower display at the University Road roundabout", advising how readers had described it; "wow – what a display! I am chuffed to bits to have seen it" and "surely this must be the most beautiful roundabout in Britain."

We have had a great deal of success with our wildflower areas and found that it is definitely advantageous to try and do Autumn sowings, particularly of the annuals. The Best 6 Annuals mix has performed particularly well and given us some high impact pockets of colour around campus in several high-profile areas, which in turn has provoked lots of appreciative feedback. Approximately 10% of the University estate is now given over to wildflowers and the aim now is to systematically broaden the species range via help and advice from our seed suppliers at John Chambers Wildflower Seeds.

Gordon Eastham, University Grounds Maintenance Manager

Butterfly Mix

Incorporates a range of perennials, biennials and annuals which exude scents and colours to wildlife such as butterflies and other pollinating insects. This mix is ideal for meadows, parkland and landscaped areas.



Specification

Soil type		Good
Maximum h	eight	200cm
Flowering p	eriod	March – September
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perenr	nials/Biennials/Annuals

Shade	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	***
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Knapweed; Common	7.50%
Vetch; Common	7.00%
Daisy; Oxeye	6.00%
Clover; Red	5.00%
Mustard; Garlic	5.00%
Campion; Red	4.50%
Campion; White	4.50%
Selfheal	4.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	4.00%
Medick; Black	4.00%
Melilot; Yellow	4.00%
Scabious; Field	4.00%
Teasel	4.00%
Chamomile; Corn	4.00%
Cornflower	4.00%

Vetch; Kidney 3.25% Knapweed; Greater 3.00% Viper's-bugloss 3.00% Dandelion; Common 2.50% Mallow; Musk 2.50% 2.50% Soapwort Mignonette; Wild 2.00% Scabious; Devil's-bit 2.00% Scabious; Small 2.00% Dame's Violet 1.50% Valerian; Red 1.25% Hemp-agrimony 1.00% Pansy; Wild 1.00% Marjoram; Wild 0.50%

In this mix: Teasel Dipsacus fullonum

These tall plants have distinct blue flowerheads that are attractive to butterflies due to their ultraviolet visibility. Most butterflies are able to reach the nectar stored in the deep flowers using their long tongues, and the densely packed flower heads allow butterflies to extract more nectar in one sitting. In winter, the dried seed heads also provide a valuable food source for birds such as goldfinches, therefore increasing the conservation value of an area.

Biennial
50 – 200 cm
Blue/Violet
July – August
Clay, Chalk, Loam
Acid – Alkaline
Moist to Wet

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Wildflower Seed

Flowering Lawn Mix

Consisting of both perennials and annuals, this mix thrives in good soil to produce a colourful lawn display in gardens, meadows, public parks and spaces. Can be mown sporadically throughout Summer.



Specification

Soil type	Good
Maximum height	80cm
Flowering period	March – September
Coverage	1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennials/Annuals

Shade	(P) (P) (P) (P) (P)
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	** ** ** **
Pollinator forage	$\Theta \Theta \Theta \Theta \Theta$

Recipe

Buttercup; Bulbous	12.00%
Selfheal	8.50%
Yellow-rattle	8.50%
Clover; Red	8.25%
Bedstraw; Lady's	8.00%
Clover; White	6.50%
Medick; Black	6.50%
Yarrow	5.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	5.00%
Vetch; Kidney	5.00%
Dandelion; Common	4.50%
Pansy; Field	4.50%
Cat's-ear	3.00%

Hawkbit; Rough	3.00%
Hawkbit; Autumn	2.50%
Mouse-ear; Common	1.50%
Pansy; Wild	1.50%
Plantain; Hoary	1.50%
Speedwell; Germander	1.30%
Cowslip	1.00%
Speedwell; Common	1.00%
Daisy	0.25%
Harebell	0.25%
Thrift	0.25%
Thyme; Wild	0.20%



In this mix: Wild Pansy Viola tricolor

A distinctive purple, yellow and white flower with 5 petals in the recognisable pansy arrangement, which reaches a maximum height of 15cm. It loves sunny patches and suits a range of soil types. This makes it a great addition to a flowering lawn, adding a pop of colour to break up the green closer to the ground, while providing extra forage for insects.

Frequency	Annual or
	short-lived Perennial
Height	Up to 15cm
Colour	White, Yellow and Purple
Flowering p	eriod April – September
Soil	Sand, Clay, Loam
рН	Acid to Alkaline
Moisture	Moist but Well-drained

All wildflower seed mixes are subject to change dependent on time of year and harvest.



Loam Soils Mix

Contains a selection of perennials, biennials and annuals which can flourish in loam and alluvial free-draining soils. These soils are often found on/near farmland to bring colour to a large open space.



Specification

Soil type		Alluvial
Maximum h	eight	150cm
Flowering p	eriod	April – September
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perenn	ials/Biennials/Annuals

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Recipe

Burnet; Salad	9.50%
Medick; Black	8.00%
Yellow-rattle	8.00%
Knapweed; Common	7.50%
Buttercup; Meadow	7.00%
Plantain; Ribwort	6.50%
Sorrel; Common	6.50%
Carrot; Wild	5.50%
Daisy; Oxeye	5.50%
Selfheal	5.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	5.00%

Campion; White	5.00%
Bedstraw; Lady's	4.00%
Dandelion; Common	4.00%
Yarrow	3.50%
Cat's-ear	3.00%
Ragged-robin	2.50%
Plantain; Hoary	2.00%
Cowslip	1.00%
Mouse-ear; Common	0.50%



In this mix: Common Bird's-foot-trefoil Lotus corniculatus

This small yellow flower is a widespread native plant, which can thrive in a number of conditions including disturbed ground, and suits loam soils well. One of its common names is eggs and bacon, a reference to the yellow and red colours of its flowers. It has a low-lying habit, and is an important food plant for many butterflies and caterpillars.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	Up to 30cm
Colour	Yellow
Flowering period	July – October
Soil	Loam, Chalk, Sand
рН	Acid – Alkaline
Moisture	Dry to Saturated

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable | 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Wetland Mix

Contains perennials which develop most successfully in moist, well-drained soils such as ponds and river margins, ditches and marshes.



Specification

Soil type	Wet
Maximum height	150cm
Flowering period	April – September
Coverage	1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perennials

Shade	(P)
Sun	$\bigcirc \bigcirc $
Drainage	$\bigcirc \bigcirc $
Colours	🋞 🏶 🏶 🏶 🕷
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Iris; Yellow	24.50%
Buttercup; Meadow	9.50%
Vetch; Tufted	8.00%
Campion; Red	7.50%
Meadowsweet	7.00%
Selfheal	7.00%
Bedstraw; Hedge	6.00%
Angelica; Wild	5.00%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Greater	3.50%

Sneezewort	3.50%
Avens; Water	3.00%
Scabious; Devil's-bit	3.00%
Gipsywort	3.00%
Fleabane; Common	2.50%
Hemp-agrimony	2.00%
Purple; Loosestrife	2.00%
Ragged-robin	1.50%
St John's-wort; Square-stalked	1.50%



In this mix: Yellow Iris Iris pseudacorus

Yellow Irises are a common sight in wetland areas, including swamps, fens and saltmarshes, and are therefore tolerant of a variety of water conditions. Flowers are bright yellow with fine dark brown veins and spots. The distinctive leaves are flat and 'sword like', adding extra texture and interest to wetland areas when not in flower.

Frequency	Perennial
Height	40 – 150cm
Colour	Yellow
Flowering period	May to July
Soil	Clay, Loam
рН	Acid
Moisture	Wet and Damp

All wildflower seed mixes are subject to change dependent on time of year and harvest.



Sandy Soils Mix

This mix incorporates perennials, biennials and annuals. Sandy soils are often found in low-rainfall regions/areas. The plants in this recipe can be used in this type of soil to establish throughout Summer.



Specification

Soil type Dry/L		Dry/Light
Maximum h	eight	90cm
Flowering p	eriod	May – September
Coverage		1.5 – 2g/m²
Frequency	Perenn	ials/Biennials/Annuals

Shade	() () () () ()
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	** ** ** **
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Knapweed; Common	9.00%
Yellow-rattle	9.00%
Medick; Black	8.50%
Carrot; Wild	7.00%
Selfheal	7.00%
Vetch; Kidney	6.50%
Bedstraw; Lady's	6.00%
Daisy; Oxeye	6.00%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	5.50%
Mallow; Musk	5.50%

Viper's-bugloss	4.50%
Dandelion; Common	4.00%
Yarrow	4.00%
Weld	3.50%
Campion; Bladder	3.00%
Hawkbit; Rough	2.50%
Mignonette; Wild	2.50%
Forget-me-not; Field	2.00%
Plantain; Hoary	2.00%
St John's-wort; Perforate	2.00%



In this mix: Viper's-bugloss Echium vulgare

Viper's-bugloss is a distinctive plant with tall stems of purple flowers. It enjoys disturbed ground, well-drained soil and sandy areas. It is a hardy plant that can cope with exposed conditions, so is a good addition to a wildflower mix. The flowers running up the spire-like stalk are trumpet shaped, and are pollinated by many insects including butterflies and moths.

Frequency	Biennial
Height	Up to 100cm
Colour	Purple
Flowering period	June – September
Soil	Loam, Chalk, Sand
рН	Acid – Alkaline
Moisture	Well-drained

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable | 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Wildflower Seed

Coastal Mix

A salt-tolerant mix which contains both perennials and biennials which can succeed in very dry and well-drained conditions. The plants in this recipe will create a wonderful display in locations near the seaside or towards the coast.



Specification

Soil type	Very Dry/Well-drained	
Maximum height	150cm	
Flowering period	May – October	
Coverage	1.5 – 2g/m²	
Frequency	Perennials/Biennials	

Shade	() ()()() () () () () () () () () (
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	** ** ** **
Pollinator forage	

Recipe

Parsnip; Wild	10.50%
Knapweed; Common	9.50%
Carrot; Wild	8.50%
Evening-primrose; Common	7.50%
Vetch; Kidney	6.50%
Bird's-foot-trefoil; Common	6.00%
Viper's-bugloss	5.75%
Bedstraw; Lady's	5.50%
Daisy; Oxeye	5.50%
Campion; Bladder	4.50%
Cat's-ear	4.00%
Hound's-tongue	4.00%

Knapweed; Greater	4.00%
Plantain; Ribwort	3.00%
Foxglove	2.50%
Plantain; Sea	2.50%
Campion; Sea	2.00%
St John's-wort; Perforate	2.00%
Toadflax; Common	2.00%
Centaury; Common	1.50%
Tansy	1.00%
Thrift	1.00%
Harebell	0.50%
Thyme; Wild	0.25%





In this mix: Thrift Armeria maritima

Thrift or 'sea-pink' has a small pom-pom shaped flower head on top of an evergreen leaf structure. As well as being a popular garden rockery plant, it is commonly found on clifftops, so can cope well in areas with high salt content and thin soils. The evergreen foliage forms cushion like mats, enhancing the winter colour and coverage where it is sown.

Frequency	Evergreen, Perennial	
Height	Up to 15cm	
Colour	Pink	
Flowering p	ring period April to July	
	(some until October)	
Soil	Chalk, Clay, Sand, Loam	
рН	Acid – Alkaline	
Moisture	Well-drained	

Cornfield Annuals

Cornfield Annuals is a mixture of annuals to provide first year colour with the addition of some short-lived perennials. This mix provides a colourful display in Summer which is suitable for good soil in many different locations.



Specification

Soil type	Good
Maximum height	100cm
Flowering period	March – September
Coverage	2g/m ²
Frequency	Annuals

Recipe

Corncockle	30.00%
Buttercup; Meadow	15.00%
Cornflower	9.50%
Marigold; Corn	8.00%
Poppy; Field or Common	7.50%

Shade	() () () () ()
Sun	00000
Drainage	00000
Colours	***
Pollinator forage	

Campion; White	7.50%
Chamomile; Corn	7.50%
Chamomile; Scentless	6.50%
Forget-me-not; Field	
Pansy; Field	2.00%



In this mix: Common Poppy Papaver rhoeas

Common Poppy is one of the most familiar British annual wildflowers, with its striking red saucer shaped flowers. They have a lot of symbolic value in British culture, as a sign of remembrance. Traditionally they are found in cornfields, but now becoming rarer due to increased intensive agriculture. They can often be found in disturbed ground and enjoy sunny open fields.

Frequency	Annual
Height	20 – 75cm
Colour	Red
Flowering perio	d June – August
Soil	Loam, Chalk, Sand
рН	Acid, Alkaline, Neutral
Moisture	Well-drained

Suitability: 1 highlighted icon = Less suitable 5 highlighted icons = More suitable



Case Study: Tottle Brook, Highfields Park, Nottingham



Tottle Brook is a small watercourse which flows in a South West to North East direction in Highfields Park, Nottingham. Nottingham City Council commissioned Dobson UK, a leading provider of landscaping, grounds maintenance and amenity weed control service to undertake the work. Funded by a £50,000 grant from the European Regional Development Fund and Nottingham City Council, the aims were to make improvements to Tottle Brook to enhance the environment for wildlife, improve biodiversity and create new habitats.

Dobson UK turned to John Chambers Wildflower Seed, part of leading landscape supplier Green-tech for their advice and supply of 120 metres of Coir pre-established Log Rolls to act as an additional flow director to the Brushwood Faggots and Gravel Beaches they installed as well as RiverMats, tree planting sundries and 14kg John Chambers Wildflower Seed for wet and damp soils which will cover an area of approximately 3000m² was also supplied as part of the project.

John Chambers Heritage Wet and Damp Soils Wildflower Mix is from the Heritage Range. Renowned for the quality of its seed, the Heritage range retains the original recipes created by original business founder John Chambers. All seed supplied is of optimum quality, will provide exceptional germination and is cleaned by hand to ensure that only pure and uncontaminated seed arrives at a project. Every Heritage mix supplied is available with a certificate of authenticity, listing the species, origin and recipe for the mixture.

The main work at Tottle Brook was completed at the end of December 2019 with follow-up landscaping work scheduled in 2020. With access being an issue on this project, especially with the added difficulty of the extremely wet weather, the Green-tech and John Chambers Wildflower Seed team worked with us to overcome this. We were very happy, as always, with the quality of product and the service provided. Towards the end of the project we spotted a Little Egret which had not been seen in the area for a long time so we're delighted that the project is proving fruitful already.

Lauren Dobson, Business Development Manager, Dobson UK

Wildflower Matting

John Chambers Wildflower Matting is pre-grown under controlled, specialist conditions and delivered direct to site to provide instant impact and wildlife benefits for your project.

Benefits

- Wildflower-rich matting containing little or no grass to aid establishment and impact
- Easy and quick to install*
- Low maintenance usually cut once a year, after seed has set
- Wildlife-friendly wildflower species attract important pollinators such as bees and butterflies
- Long-flowering, diverse displays

* Wildflower Matting is a living product. As with other living turf products, in order to avoid dryingout, it should be installed on the day of delivery. In order to avoid disappointment, please ensure you have made adequate arrangements.

Properties

- Establishes a wildflower meadow instantly
- Established plants are supplied growing in a dense sward which acts as a weed barrier
- A minimum of 75% wildflower / 25% grass seed mix is sown at the correct density to give optimum conditions for establishment
- Low maintenance one cut annually to achieve a healthy display
- Attracts wildlife such as butterflies, insects and other invertebrates, birds and mammals
- A prolonged flowering period providing aesthetic pleasure throughout the year

Uses

- General landscaping
- Specialist landscaping
- Golf courses
- Bespoke garden designs

Available for delivery

We have a range of Wildflower Matting products available for delivery, please enquire for pricing. We will require the following in order to provide costs for you:

- Delivery postcode
- Quantity of matting required (m²)



Case Study: Ashtree Gardens Development, Ashby-de-la-Zouch





1000sqm of John Chambers Wildflower Matting has been supplied for a newly created balancing pond on a new Bellway Homes housing development.

PGE Landscaping Ltd is a professional landscaping, fencing and grounds maintenance company working within the construction sector throughout the Midlands and surrounding counties.

They were working on behalf of major UK residential property developer, Bellway Homes on their Ashtree Gardens development; a stunning development of new homes in the market town of Ashby-de-la-Zouch. PGE Landscaping was asked to create a balancing pond (also known as a balancing lakes, attenuation or retention ponds) which acts as a temporary storage facility for watercourses like streams. Rather than water being discharged directly into the watercourse, potentially overwhelming it and causing flooding, the water is stored in the balancing pond.

They installed John Chambers Wildflower Matting around the pond. It is a balanced mixture of wildflowers and grasses growing in a moisture retentive biodegradable felt, that provide an instant wildflower meadow. Made up of native wildflower species, the Wildflower Matting will provide beautiful blooms that will grow back year after year. As well as being lovely to look at, it will encourage biodiversity and over time will help build up and support an ecosystem. We were really pleased with the quality of the John Chambers Wildflower Matting. It was delivered as specified and was easy to lay with instant results. The client was pleased and we've overheard local residents commenting on how impressive it was and how it has created a lovely view for those living in sight of it. They're just waiting for the ducks now! I have no hesitation recommending the John Chambers Wildflower Matting.

Jon Austin, PGE Landscaping Ltd

Bespoke Wildflower Seed Mixes







At John Chambers we take pride in the preparation, cleaning and mixing of our seeds. This care ensures the mix is supplied to your specification and is of the highest quality.

John Chambers classifies its wildflower seed by the following considerations:

- Soil type
- Growing environment
- Colour
- Height
- Flowering period
- Sowing period



A mix to suit any environment

The team at John Chambers can create a mix for your project or landscape area that is suited to the specific considerations of the growing environment*. Whether you would like an 'all blue' mix to mark a special event or a wildflower mix that is best suited to moist and damp soils, the John Chambers team are available to answer your questions.

Call 01423 332 115 or email sales@johnchamberswildflowers.co.uk *Subject to minimum order quantities

Case Study: Three Hagges Wood-Meadow, York



John Chambers Wildflower Seed has donated 2.5kg of Bespoke Native Wildflower Seed to the Hagge Woods Trust for their woodland wonderland at Three Hagges Wood-Meadow, York, North Yorkshire.

Three Hagges Wood-Meadow has been planted with the help of the local volunteers and is open for the benefit of the community. It holds enormous potential for educational and recreational events and is already being enjoyed by families, adults, schoolchildren and companies alike.

The Hagge Woods Trust believe that the successful creation of woodland demands far more than just mass planting of trees. In planting new Hagge Woods, they intend to raise the bar for both beauty and biodiversity and restore joy and wonder to our woodland eco-systems. Set in ten hectares the woodland has been pioneered by Rosalind Forbes Adam, Chair of the Hagge Woods Trust, and Lin Hawthorne, Project Manager and Designer. It all started with a conversion of a 25-acre barley field site into a wood meadow, modelled on one of the most diverse of eco-systems in the northern temperate world.

The site was then sown with two (wet and dry) lowland mixes of grasses, 10,000 native trees and 28 species of shrubs have been planted into the meadow. The John Chambers wildflower meadow has been sown with a higher proportion of wild flowers and a greater variety of fine grasses than usual. This aims to gain a longer flowering season, slower and lower growth, resulting in less maintenance. New plants are raised in the on-site nursery which is sponsored by another Yorkshire based business, Bettys of Harrogate.

Our concept of a Hagge Wood involves the transformation of an arable field or other similarly limited habitat into a thriving woodland eco-system. Planning, plant species selection, ground preparation and planting are only the first steps thoughtful, timely and consistent management are key to success and long-term monitoring will be the means of measuring it. To research and practise the ecological and holistic creation of new native woodlands, we have created our first experimental woodland at Three Hagges Wood-Meadow. The project has received a strong endorsement from Jeff Lunn, formerly of Natural England, the government's statutory adviser on nature conservation.

Rosalind Forbes Adam, Chair of Hagge Woods Trust



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Green-tech Specifier is the Specification arm of leading landscape supplier Green-tech Ltd. Our team have a wealth of experience developing landscape solutions for urban developments and projects. Working with landscape architects, landscape contractors, garden designers and nurseries from across the UK, Green-tech Specifier has created a portfolio of systems and solutions designed to protect, enhance and improve trees in the urban environment.

- Urban Tree Planting
- Root Protection
- Ground Stabilisation and Support
- Tree Irrigation
- Soft Landscaping
- Roof Gardens
- Street Furniture
- Soils and Growing Media
- Wildflowers

For more information and guidance on the Green-tech Specifier product range and the solutions the team can offer, log onto www.gtspecifier.co.uk



