

# Wildflower Planting Guide



1. **SOIL PREP** - All existing vegetation should be removed. Expose soil and create a firm seed bed.
2. **SEEDING** - On small sites, broadcast with a cyclone spreader or by hand. Rake seed in lightly, 1/8 inch deep, ensuring contact with soil. Adding sand or vermiculite to the seeds will add bulk, aiding in more even distribution. On larger areas, slopes and ditches, hydroseeding is recommended for best results.
3. **SUGGESTED SEEDING RATES** - 8 ounces (1/2 lb.) per 1000 square feet or 8 - 10 pounds per acre.
4. **WHEN TO PLANT** - Sow seeds in early spring as soon as weather warms, or when ground is warm. Alternatively, a late fall or dormant seeding can help stratify seeds over the winter to germinate when it warms up in the spring. Germination will occur in two to four weeks if moisture is available. Supplemental water should be provided, as necessary.
5. **FERTILIZATION** - It is not recommended to fertilize sites being planted to wildflowers unless the soil is extremely sterile. Best results are obtained in soils low in nutrients. Adding fertilizer high in nitrogen is not recommended as it will cause excessive vegetative growth and encourage weed growth.
6. **USE OF GRASSES IN A BLEND** - Non-aggressive clump grasses or clovers can be added to wildflower mixtures to aid in soil stabilization. Do not use ryegrass, bluegrass, or orchard grasses in wildflower mixtures as these are too aggressive. Buffalo grass is a good choice.
7. **MAINTENANCE** - Spot application of weed killers may be necessary for the control of weeds. Mature wildflower vegetation should be mowed in the fall at the height of approximately six inches after flowering and seed set. Mowing will scatter seeds and allow for removal of excessive plant growth. Every two years, the site should be lightly reseeded to maintain the original wildflower mixture, otherwise dominant species may over-populate.
8. **BE PATIENT!** - Establishing a wildflower stand takes time. Some species may not be visible for two or three years. Perennial species are long lived and take longer to develop.

**1414 W. Main \* PO Box 127 \* Albert Lea MN 56007**  
**800-352-5247 \* [www.alseed.com](http://www.alseed.com)**

