

Planting Assessment

Coir Roll

We will fit Pre-planted Coir roll with native aquatic species *as shown below*.



Sales Quote
SQ14285.pdf

If the plants/coir rolls fail to establish, we will replant at the correct time of year.

Wild Seed Mix

Wild seed mixes for river banks typically combine deep-rooted native wildflowers and grasses, such as Purple Loosestrife, Ragged Robin, Meadowsweet, and Common Bent, to stabilize soil, prevent erosion, and thrive in wet, low-fertility conditions. These, often 30-100% native wildflower mixes, are best sown in spring (March-May)

Wet Meadow Seed Mix | British Wildflower & Grass Seed | Habitat Aid is the recommended seed mix and will be used.

Installation and maintenance

Phase 1: Establishment (Year 1)

Proper establishment ensures the wildflowers can compete with existing vegetation and weeds.

- **Site Preparation:**
 - **Remove Existing Vegetation:** Clear the area completely, or if over-seeding into grass, cut the grass as short as possible.
 - **Reduce Fertility:** Wildflowers thrive on low-nutrient soil. If the soil is rich, remove the top 5-10cm of topsoil.
 - **Stale Seedbed Technique:** Cultivate the soil to create a fine, firm tilth, then leave it for a few weeks to allow weed seeds to germinate. Kill these weeds (by hoeing or light cultivation) before sowing the wildflower mix.





- **Sowing:**

- **Timing:** Autumn (September/October) is generally best, as many seeds require a cold, damp period to germinate. Alternatively, sow in early spring.
- **Method:** Mix the seed with a carrier (e.g., dry sand or sawdust) at a ratio of 4:1 to ensure even distribution. Broadcast by hand or machine, rather than drilling.
- **Sowing Rate:** Typically 2-5g per square meter.
- **Soil Contact:** Lightly roll or tread the area after sowing to ensure the seed is in contact with the soil. Do not bury the seed; most need light to germinate.

- **Initial Maintenance:**

- **First-Year Mowing:** In the first year, cut the area regularly (to a height of 60mm) to control fast-growing annual weeds and allow light to reach the developing perennial seedlings.
- **Remove Cuttings:** Always remove all cut material to avoid adding nutrients back into the soil.

Phase 2: Long-Term Management (Year 2+)

Once established, the meadow requires minimal, but consistent, annual maintenance to maintain diversity.

- **Late Summer Cut (Hay Cut):**

- **Timing:** The main, and often only, cut occurs in late July or August, once most flowers have bloomed and set seed.
- **Technique:** Cut the vegetation to a height of 50-75mm.
- **Remove Cuttings:** After cutting, leave the hay on the ground for a few days to allow seeds to drop, then rake it off.

- **Autumn/Winter Management:**

- **Aftermath Grazing/Cutting:** If regrowth is high, a second cut in October or a light grazing by livestock can help keep the sward low through winter.
- **Scarification:** In late winter, you can lightly scarify the meadow (disturbing 50% of the soil) to provide gaps for seeds to germinate.



- **Overseeding:** If the meadow lacks diversity, add more seeds or yellow rattle in the autumn.