

Pictorial Meadows Seed

'Vibrant' annuals and 'Biodiversity Rich' perennials seed mix ranges,
providing high visual, ecological
and robust planting



**Pictorial
Meadows®**

www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk



About Pictorial Meadows Seed®

Pictorial Meadows® originated from a long and productive partnership between the University of Sheffield and The Green Estate Community Interest Company. A seed of an idea, initially researched by Professor Nigel Dunnett, has been nurtured and extensively tested by The Green Estate. This collaboration between landscape designers, greenspace managers, ecologists and horticulturalists has led to an exciting new era of naturalistic, sustainable, and designed approaches to landscape planting.

Both the vibrant colour-themed annual range and the biodiverse-rich perennial range have taken their inspiration from nature but have

used careful planting design to ensure an especially high visual impact. Incorporating more than 500 different species of wildflowers, Pictorial Meadows mixes are full of British native species but are also enhanced with carefully selected wildflowers from locations around the world with varying climatic conditions.

This careful design and researching of plants aim to offer a wide range of solutions that are engaging, adaptive and resilient with an especially long flowering season that benefits both people and wildlife.

These nature-based solutions have proven ideally suited to our gardens, parks and urban environments, helping to deliver maximum benefits with relatively minimal resources.

Annual mixes

Our **annual wildflower mixes** are made up of species that complete their entire life cycle in a single year, giving you a fast growing burst of vibrant colour, designed to last for one growing season.

The Vibrant Range
Annual Meadow Mixes, page 4

Perennial mixes

Our **perennial mixes**, on the other hand, contain long-lived species that establish more slowly but return and expand year after year, creating a more durable, evolving display.

The Biodiversity Rich Range
Perennial Meadow Mixes, page 18

'We love working with Pictorial Meadows® because of the support and reliability it gives the client.'

Tom Saunders, Skylark Garden Design





Tuscan Hills - see page 25

The Vibrant Range

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Ever-changing long flowering impact

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Long flowering but shorter varieties

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Hot oranges, yellows and reds

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Cool blues, purples and whites

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Dramatic, darker colours, red and deep purple

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With your Annual Meadow Mix

The Biodiversity Rich Range

18 Introduction to Perennial Meadow Mixes

Best for normal, heavier and variable fertility soils:

19 PS01 Turkish Delight

Very long season flowering

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Cool colour-themed display

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For semi-shade and early flowering impact

22 PS04 Water's Edge

Robust periodic wetland and damp clay soils

23 PS05 Native Meadow

British native species only

Best for lower fertility, free draining soils, offering more drought resilience:

24 PS06 Persian Carpet

Dainty with very long flowering season

25 PS07 Tuscan Hills

Mediterranean style flowers

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A colourful, reliable mix for very low fertility including crushed brick

27 Success

With your Perennial Meadow Mix

29 Future Proofing

Adaptation and resilience to future climate challenges



“Every morning I wake up to this.. it makes my day so much better for it, so thank you!”

Customer feedback

Sundance - see page 07

Introduction to Annual Meadow Mixes

The Vibrant Range

For over 20 years now Pictorial Meadows Annual Seed Mixes® have been used in almost every conceivable location from the most demanding brownfield sites through to highway verges, parks, tourist attractions, gardens and even window boxes. Reliable in almost any planting environment, annual Pictorial Meadows® provide both subtle and dramatic seasonal colour and are a proven way of introducing meadow-like landscapes to scale and on a budget. Annual mixes are easy and reliable to establish on normal to higher fertility landscape soils and should be sown each year to get the full benefit from these truly beautiful and vibrant meadows.

The Vibrant Range mixes have an average of 10 species per mix formulated to give over 200 plants per square metre. Containing a very carefully balanced mix of species to give sequential flowering from early summer through to autumn, these mixes are a perfect solution for temporary sites or as a forerunner to a more permanent perennial meadow. Annuals work well with other naturalistic planting features and can be successfully combined with bulbs and mixed planting schemes.

HOW TO ORDER: By phone **0114 267 7635** or enquire through the website **www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk**



POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY MIXES

Seed mixes with special benefit to bees and butterflies as well as other pollinating insects.

PA01

Classic

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Ever-changing long flowering impact

Designed by Professor Nigel Dunnett from the University of Sheffield, this stunning and ever-changing display continues from spring right through to mid-autumn. Rich in dainty reds, whites and blues in the early stages, the meadow finally turns to gorgeous autumnal colours.



Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens, suitable for a colourful, medium-height flower border style meadow. Also, suitable for large-scale projects with a strong visual impact. Offers excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a prolonged season display.

Height details — Generally considered medium height with main components from 20cm to 60cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Ammi majus</i>						
<i>Atriplex hortensis</i> 'Red Plume'						
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Standard Mix'						
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> 'Standard'						
<i>Delphinium ajacis</i> 'Giant Imperial Mix'						
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> 'Single Mix'						
<i>Gypsophila elegans</i> 'Covent Garden'						
<i>Linaria maroccana</i> 'Northern Lights'						
<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> var. <i>rubrum</i>						
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i> 'Shirley Single Mix'						
<i>Phacelia tanacetifolia</i>						
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> 'My Joy'						

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Phacelia tanacetifolia* (Fiddleneck), B: *Delphinium ajacis* (Larkspur), C: *Papaver rhoeas* 'Shirley Single Mix' (Shirley poppy), D: *Coreopsis tinctoria* (Dyer's tickseed), E: *Linaria maroccana* (Toadflax)

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PA02

Pixie

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Long flowering but shorter varieties

This is a delightful little mix with the same wonderfully long and robust flowering characteristics of Classic, but with a greater focus on dwarf and compact slender annual species. Perfect for a dainty meadow where a very colourful look is quickly achieved.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a low to medium-height border-style meadow. Also, ideal for areas that require a low canopy height, such as roadsides and roundabouts.

Height details — Generally considered short to medium height with main components from 10cm to 30cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Polka Dot Mixed'							
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> 'Dwarf Mixed'							
<i>Convolvulus tricolor</i> (mixed)							
<i>Crepis rubra</i>							
<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i> (mixed)							
<i>Gypsophila elegans</i> 'Covent Garden'							
<i>Iberis umbellata</i> 'Dwarf Fairy Mixed'							
<i>Linaria maroccana</i> 'Fairy Bouquet'							
<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> 'Bright Eyes'							
<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> var. <i>rubrum</i>							
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> 'Suttons Blue'							
<i>Nigella damascena</i> 'Miss Jekyll'							
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i> 'Shirley Single Mix'							
<i>Silene armeria</i> 'Electra'							

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Convolvulus tricolor* (Dwarf morning glory), B: *Linum grandiflorum* 'Bright Eyes', C: *Viscaria oculata*, D: *Crepis rubra* (Hawksbeard), E: *Iberis umbellata* (Candytuft)

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PA03



Sundance

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Hot oranges, yellows and reds

A truly glorious celebratory mix of gleaming gold and yellow blooms, shot with a touch of contrasting blue and flashes of white. Early flowering species, initially delicate and lower growing, give way to later taller varieties as the season progresses.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a colourful, low to medium-height border-style meadow of hot colours, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display.

Height details — Generally considered short to medium height with main components from 15cm to 40cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
<i>Calendula officinalis</i> 'Orange King'							
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Blue Boy'							
<i>Chrysanthemum carinatum</i> 'Flame Shades'							
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> 'Eastern Star'							
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> 'Dwarf Mixed'							
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> 'Standard Tall Mix'							
<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i> (mixed)							
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> 'Golden West'							
<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> var. <i>rubrum</i>							
<i>Limnanthus douglasii</i>							
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> 'My Joy'							
<i>Tagetes</i> 'Lemon Gem'							
<i>Venidium fastuosum</i> (mixed)							

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Venidium fastuosum* (African marigold), B: *Tagetes* 'Lemon Gem', C: *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed susan), D: *Limnanthes douglasii* (Poached egg plant), E: *Chrysanthemum* 'Flame Shades' (Chrysanthemum)

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PA04

Aqua

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Cool blues, purples, and whites

Restful and harmonious, this meadow contains species of varied cool colours. Originally designed to represent the shimmering waters of the Olympic Aquatics Centre, this mix provides a long lived display and ever-changing seasonal interest and some further variations as autumn approaches.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a low to medium-height border-style meadow. Blue flowers naturally attract bees, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display.

Height details — Generally considered short to medium height with main components from 20cm to 40cm tall depending on soil fertility.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>									
<i>Ammi majus</i>									
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Blue Boy'									
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Snowman'									
<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i> 'Sensation Purity'									
<i>Delphinium ajacis</i> 'Blue Spire'									
<i>Echium plantagineum</i> 'Blue Bedder'									
<i>Gypsophila elegans</i> 'Covent Garden'									
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> 'Suttons Blue'									
<i>Nemophila insignis</i>									
<i>Phacelia campanularia</i>									
<i>Salvia horminum</i> 'Blue Monday'									
<i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i> (blue)									
<i>Silene armeria</i> 'Electra'									
<i>Viscaria oculata</i> 'Blue Pearl'									

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Echium* 'Blue Bedder' (Viper's-bugloss), B: *Salvia horminum* (Annual sage), C: *Phacelia campanularia* (Desert bluebell), D: *Nemophila insignis* (Baby blue eyes), E: *Centaurea* 'Snowman' (Cornflower)

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PA05

Pastel

ANNUAL NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Long season pinks, reds, and whites

This delightful colour theme of reds, whites and pinks with just a little scattering of blue, is the perfect choice for a long flowering season. As we enter autumn, this meadow continues to impress with intense pastel colours that in some years can go on as far as December.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a medium to tall height colourful border-style meadow, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display.

Height details — Generally considered medium to tall height with main components from 30cm to 100cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
Ammi majus								
Centaurea cyanus 'Polka Dot Mixed'								
Cosmos bipinnatus 'Sensation Purity'								
Cosmos bipinnatus 'Gloria'								
Gypsophila elegans 'Covent Garden'								
Papaver rhoeas 'Shirley Single Mix'								
Viscaria oculata (mixed)								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: Ammi majus (Bishop's weed), B: Centaurea cyanus 'Polka Dot Mixed', C: Cosmos 'Gloria' (Cosmos), D: Papaver 'Shirley Single Mix' (Shirley poppy), E: Viscaria oculata (Catchfly)

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PA06

Patriotic

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Strong reds, whites and blues

A carefully designed combination of reds, whites and blue shades, brought together to provide a striking colour theme. This meadow mix has been created to produce plants that flower at various heights to provide both interest and visual impact.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a medium to tall height colourful border-style meadow, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display.

Height details — Generally considered medium to tall height with main components from 20cm to 80cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
Ammi majus									
Centaurea cyanus 'Blue Boy'									
Clarkia elegans 'Scarlet Queen'									
Cosmos bipinnatus 'Sensation Dazzler Red'									
Cosmos bipinnatus 'Sensation Purity'									
Delphinium ajacis 'Blue Spire'									
Eschscholzia californica 'Ivory Castle'									
Gypsophila elegans 'Covent Garden'									
Linum grandiflorum var. rubrum									
Linum perenne									
Papaver rhoeas									
Scabiosa atropurpurea 'Cherry Red'									
Trifolium incarnatum									
Viscaria oculata (blue)									

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: Cosmos 'Dazzler', B: Eschscholzia 'Ivory Castle' (Californian poppy), C: Papaver rhoeas (Common poppy), D: Scabiosa 'Cherry Red' (Scabious), E: Trifolium incarnatum (Crimson clover)

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PA07

Candy

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Long season with mixed colours

This meadow is a particularly vibrant collection of flowers that burst with brightness. As this carnival of colour explodes, you can expect ever-changing combinations of radiant reds, pinks and yellows, with wisps of whites and baby blues producing a stunning 'eye candy' effect.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a low to medium height colourful border-style meadow, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display. Also, suitable for large-scale projects.

Height details — Generally considered short to medium height with main components from 20cm to 40cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>							
<i>Ammi majus</i>							
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Polka Dot Mixed'							
<i>Chrysanthemum carinatum</i> 'Flame Shades'							
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> 'Standard'							
<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i> (mixed)							
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> 'Single Mix'							
<i>Linaria maroccana</i> 'Northern Lights'							
<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> var. <i>rubrum</i>							
<i>Matricaria inodora</i>							
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i> 'Shirley Single Mix'							

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Agrostemma githago* (Corncockle), B: *Ammi majus* (Bishop's weed), C: *Dimorphotheca sinuata* (Namaqualand), D: *Linum rubrum* (Flowering flax), E: *Matricaria inodora* (Scentless mayweed)

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PA09

Dragonfly

ANNUAL NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Dramatic, darker colour

Inspired by the iridescent dragonflies that we love to encourage into our gardens, this fabulous meadow offers an unusual combination of purples and yellows with orange and ivory tones. Expect energy and excitement from the ever-changing successional colour.



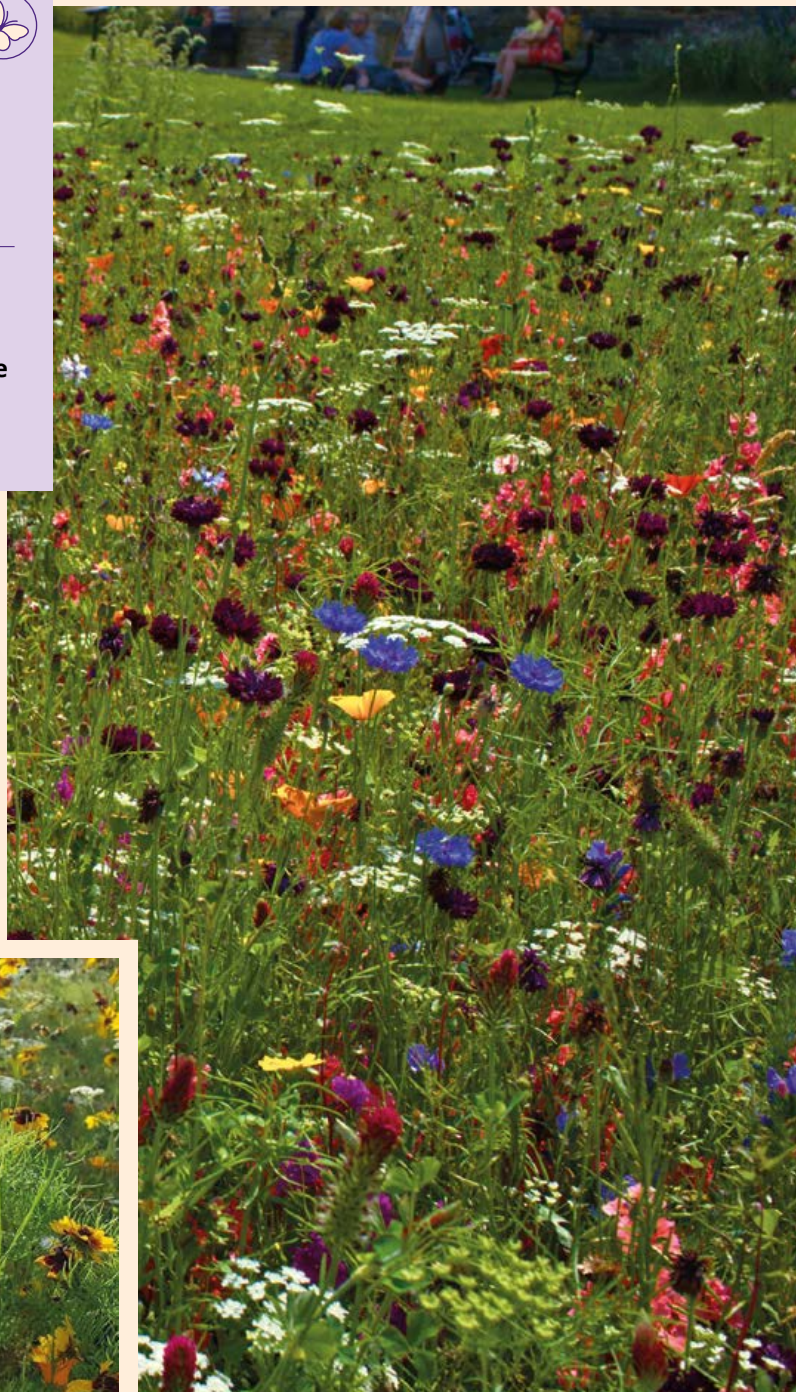
Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location —

Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a low to medium height colourful border-style meadow, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display.

Height details —

Generally considered medium height with main components from 30cm to 60cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Atriplex hortensis 'Red Plume'							
Ammi majus							
Centaurea cyanus 'Black Boy'							
Clarkia elegans 'Scarlet Queen'							
Delphinium consolida 'King Size Scarlet'							
Coreopsis tinctoria 'Dwarf Mixed'							
Crepis rubra							
Eschscholzia californica 'Mikado'							
Eschscholzia californica 'Red Chief'							
Linum grandiflorum var. rubrum							
Nemophila menziesii 'Penny Black'							
Papaver somniferum 'Black Swan'							
Scabiosa atropurpurea 'Cherry Red'							
Trifolium incarnatum							

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: Ammi majus (Bishop's weed), B: Nemophila 'Penny Black' (Penny black), C: Eschscholzia californica 'Red Chief' (Californian poppy), D: Papaver somniferum 'Black Swan' (Opium poppy), E: Trifolium incarnatum (Crimson clover)

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PA10

Kingfisher

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Contrasting blue, orange and white

Developed for Trentham Gardens' lakeside walk to capture the bright colours of the resident kingfishers, this meadow provides strong contrasting colours that shine even on the duller days. Hot shimmering orange gives way to a blaze of blues, sharpened with a streak of white.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens. Suitable for a low to medium height colourful border-style meadow, offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display.

Height details — Generally considered short to medium height with main components from 20cm to 60cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
Ammi majus							
Centaurea cyanus 'Blue Boy'							
Cosmos bipinnatus 'Sensation Purity'							
Convolvulus tricolor (blue)							
Calendula officinalis 'Orange King'							
Chrysanthemum carinatum 'Polar Star'							
Coreopsis tinctoria 'Mahogany Midget'							
Echium plantagineum 'Blue Bedder'							
Eschscholzia californica 'Red Chief'							
Linaria reticulata aureo-purpurea							
Nigella hispanica							
Rudbeckia hirta 'Autumn Forest'							
Salvia horminum 'Blue Monday'							
Venidium fastuosum (white)							
Venidium fastuosum (orange)							

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Echium plantagineum* 'Blue Bedder' (Viper's-bugloss), B: *Linaria reticulata* aureo-purpurea (Purple toadflax), C: *Nigella hispanica* (Spanish fennel flower), D: *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed susan), E: *Venidium fastuosum* white (Cape daisy)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PA11

Cornfield

ANNUAL | NORMAL TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

Best British native only seed mix

A mix of traditional British native annual wildflowers, reminiscent of cornfields and country lanes, this meadow is especially pretty in its main flowering period of June through to August and is abundant with favourites such as cornflower and poppy.

Shade tolerance — Full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for well-drained soils, ornamental landscapes and gardens, where a seasonal, native only annual meadow is required. Offering excellent pollinator value, reliability, and a long-lasting display. Ideal for those sites where only native species are appropriate.

Height details — Generally considered medium height with main components from 20cm to 40cm tall.

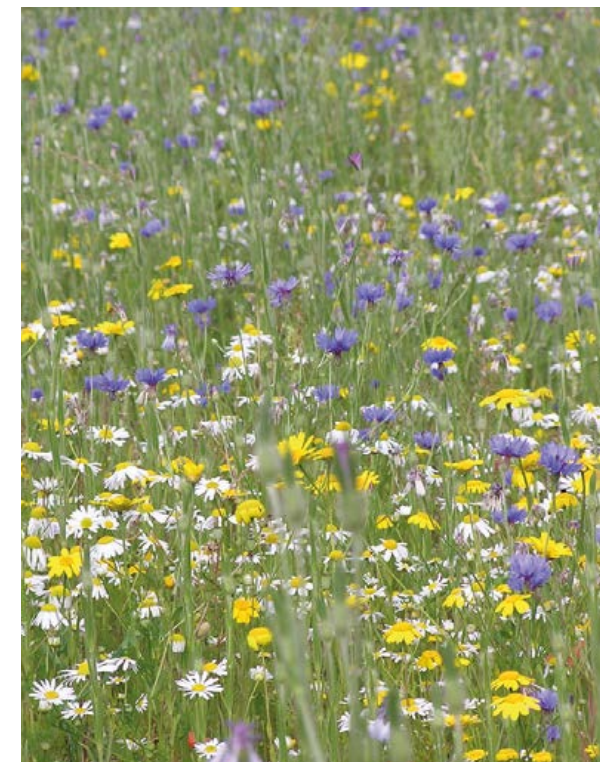


Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>						
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Blue Boy'						
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>						
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> 'Suttons Blue'						
<i>Matricaria inodora</i>						
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>						

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only



Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Agrostemma githago* (Corncockle), B: *Chrysanthemum segetum* (Chrysanthemum), C: *Linum perenne* (Perennial flax), D: *Matricaria inodora* (Scentless mayweed), E: *Papaver rhoeas* (Common poppy)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk



Success with your Annual Meadow Mix

Establishment

When: Sow when the soil is dry during spring between March to end of May / early June (depending on weather conditions that year), just as the soil is warming up. An autumn sowing is possible for an early flowering display – but may result in the loss of some, or all, of the display in a severe winter.

Where: Any open, sunny location which gets at least a couple of hours of full sunshine, but try and find the sunniest spot for the best results as a shady position will result in patchy growth and poor flowering.

Weeds: It is important to sow onto a very clean, dry seedbed and ensure that all visible weeds, especially grass, are removed. Do not sow into existing grass or other vegetation as this will lead to failure.

Soil preparation: Prepare when dry, in average, free draining soils. Once weeds have been removed shallow cultivate the ground and form a nice level seedbed that has a fine, crumbly texture.

Sowing rate: Pictorial Meadows annuals should be sown at a rate of 3g per square metre. Most sites can be sown quite successfully and quickly by hand, but you can also contact us for our machine meadow sowing services for larger areas or wherever you feel you need some specialist help.

How to sow: We always recommend sowing by hand in dry weather as this gives the best results. Mix your seed thoroughly with an inert carrier material such as builders' sand, with an approximate rate of five parts sand to one-part seeds, but a minimum overall quantity to broadcast over the whole area



This page: annual meadows in North Lanarkshire and sowing at the Tower of London.

twice. The sand will help to carry the seed over the seedbed and enable you to see the area sown. Sow the seed and mix evenly over the whole area twice by scattering first in one direction and then again in another direction.

Rolling and Watering: After the seed/carrier mix is sown onto the surface, it is beneficial for germination that seed is firmed onto the soil surface by using a Cambridge style or garden roller, or even walking over it. This can only be done in dry weather when the seed and soil will not stick when rolling. If rolling is not possible then seeds can be watered into the soil with a sprinkler or if rain is forecast that day allow nature to do the work. Normally, annual seeds will not require any form of watering in the UK – but if drought conditions are experienced, then watering will be required.

Growth: You can expect to see the first signs of germination in 7-10 days. Growth can be very rapid after this, and flowers may start appearing as early as 6 weeks after sowing.

Aftercare

Weeding: If ground preparation has been good, then it is normal not to undertake any form of maintenance such as weeding at all throughout the whole of the flowering season. Pictorial Meadows® annuals are specifically designed to throw up taller and taller flowering stems as the year progresses and this characteristic, along with the very high flower content is very effective at 'masking' weeds that do invade. However, if there are any rogue weeds these can be cut or removed as required.

End of season: Once the flowering season has finished the plants can be left to stand over winter for wildlife benefits or cut with a mower. There may be some reseeding of certain species to give a very limited display the following season but to get a full pictorial display you should re-sow the following spring.

Now you have succeeded with an annual mix why not take the opportunity to try another beautiful annual mix from the Vibrant Range – or even 'graduate' to our perennials from the Biodiversity Rich Range, or Pictorial Meadows Turf® from The Adaptive and Resilient Range?

HOW TO ORDER: By phone **0114 267 7635** or enquire through the website **www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk**

'It established really well with no watering despite the hot summer and visitors absolutely loved it.'

Joe, Head Gardener at Nymans, National Trust



The Classic mix at Trentham Gardens - see page 05



Bespoke annual mix for Tower of London Moat for Superbloom event

BESPOKE MIXES:

Contact us on **0114 267 7635**
or **pictorialmeadows.co.uk**
for bespoke mixes



'We love using seed mixes and Pictorial Meadows® have been our go to for at least 20 years. The balance of native and non native species has always worked well.'

John Little

Introduction to Perennial Meadow Mixes

The Biodiversity Rich Range

Uniquely designed Pictorial Meadows Perennial Seed Mixes® are an excellent floral and pollinator rich solution on many public and domestic sites and can follow on from using annual mixes as the soil nutrient levels start to decrease. They can be used on most soil types with different mixes for higher and lower nutrient sites where other plants would struggle to perform and anywhere where resilience to our increasing climate extremes is being sought.

Containing a carefully balanced mix of species many of which perform best as direct-sown seed, all our perennial seed mixes are formulated to provide years of continually evolving and changing floral displays as annual plants give way to biennials, short-term perennials and finally a unique core of legacy species that have a proven longevity. On average, there are 28 species per mix formulated to give over 150 plants per square metre. Perennials work well with other naturalistic planting features and can be successfully combined with bulbs and shrubs for mixed planting schemes.

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POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY MIXES

Seed mixes with special benefit to bees and butterflies as well as other pollinating insects.

PS01



Turkish Delight

PERENNIAL | AVERAGE TO LOW FERTILITY SOILS

Very long flowering season

A reliable long season, richly coloured flowering meadow, designed to give outstanding performance on normal fertility soils. Colour combinations change almost weekly as the year unfolds. This mix is an absolute haven for wildlife.

Preferred moisture range — Free-draining soils.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun to light shade.

Recommended location — All ornamental landscape and garden situations with no specific conditions and where a high floral impact, high pollinator value, reliable and very long season display is required.

Height details — Medium height with main components 20cm to 60cm tall with a smaller percentage of taller emergents.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>								
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Cerise Queen'								
<i>Achillea filipendulina</i> 'Cloth of Gold'								
<i>Bupthalmum salicifolium</i>								
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>								
<i>Centaurea montana</i>								
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>								
<i>Daucus carota</i> 'Purple Kisses'								
<i>Delphinium ajacis</i>								
<i>Galium verum</i>								
<i>Geranium pratense</i>								
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>								
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>								
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>								
<i>Lychnis chalcidonica</i>								
<i>Malva moschata alba</i>								
<i>Malva moschata</i>								
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>								
<i>Oenothera tetragona</i>								
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i> 'Shirley Single Mix'								
<i>Primula veris</i>								
<i>Papaver orientale</i> 'Brilliant'								
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> 'My Joy'								
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>								
<i>Salvia nemorosa</i> 'Violet Queen'								
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>								
<i>Saponaria</i> 'Pink Beauty'								
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>								
<i>Stachys lanata</i>								
<i>Tanacetum coccineum</i>								
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive and persistent species:



A: *Papaver orientale* (Oriental poppy), B: *Lychnis chalcidonica* (Maltese cross), C: *Galium verum* (Lady's bedstraw), D: *Sanguisorba officinalis* (Great burnet), E: *Bupthalmum salicifolium* (Yellow ox-eye)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS02

Moody Blues

PERENNIAL AVERAGE TO LOWER FERTILITY SOILS

Cool colour-themed display

Particularly attractive to bees, a mix of cool and elegant blues, mauves and striking purples, brought together with whites and creams presenting a constantly evolving and changing appearance over time.

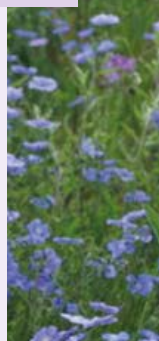


Preferred moisture range — Free-draining soils.

Shade tolerance — Full sun with light shade tolerance.

Recommended location — All ornamental landscape and garden situations where cool colours are required.

Height details — 10cm to 50cm tall with some taller emergents.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Ammi majus								
Achillea millefolium								
Aster amellus								
Campanula glomerata								
Convolvulus tricolor (blue)								
Centaurea montana								
Centaurea scabiosa								
Daucus carota								
Delphinium grandiflorum 'Tom Pouce Sky Blue'								
Eryngium planum								
Galium mollugo								
Geranium pratense								
Hesperis matronalis (mixed)								
Hyssopus officinalis								
Knautia arvensis								
Leucanthemum vulgare								
Linum perenne								
Malva moschata f. alba								
Origanum vulgare								
Papaver somniferum 'Black Swan'								
Phacelia tanacetifolia								
Salvia nemorosa 'Violet Queen'								
Salvia pratensis								
Veronica spicata								
Verbena bonariensis								
Verbascum phoeniceum								
Verbascum nigrum var. album								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: Hesperis matronalis (Dame's rocket), B: Centaurea montana (Mountain blue), C: Salvia pratensis (Meadow clary), D: Phacelia tanacetifolia (Lacy phacelia), E: Verbascum phoeniceum (Mullein)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS03

Woodland Edge

PERENNIAL AVERAGE FERTILITY SOILS

For semi-shade and early flowering impact

An easy to establish reliable meadow with an outstanding spring display of perennial and self-seeding biennial species with high pollinator value. This mix is an absolute joy in terms of impact and colour, especially through the spring and summer seasons.

Preferred moisture range — Free-draining soils.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun to semi-shade.

Recommended location — All ornamental landscape and garden situations where a floriferous spring display is desired. Excellent in full sun, or, in all areas of semi-shade such as under light tree canopies, north-facing landscapes and hedgerow edges.

Height details — Medium height with main components 10cm to 30cm tall with taller emergents.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>								
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Cerise Queen'								
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i> 'Double Mixed'								
<i>Alchemilla mollis</i>								
<i>Bellis perennis</i>								
<i>Bellis perennis</i> 'Pomponette Rose'								
<i>Bupleurum rotundifolium</i>								
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>								
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Snowman'								
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> 'Apricot Salmon'								
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> f. <i>albiflora</i>								
<i>Galium verum</i>								
<i>Geum chilense</i> 'Mrs J Bradshaw'								
<i>Geranium pratense</i>								
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> (mixed)								
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>								
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>								
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>								
<i>Linum grandiflorum</i> var. <i>rubrum</i>								
<i>Lunaria annua</i> (mixed)								
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>								
<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i>								
<i>Primula elatior</i>								
<i>Primula veris</i>								
<i>Silene dioica</i>								
<i>Salvia nemorosa</i> 'Violet Queen'								
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Aquilegia vulgaris* (Columbine), B: *Digitalis purpurea* 'Apricot Salmon' (Foxglove), C: *Geranium pratense* (Meadow cranesbill), D: *Polemonium caeruleum* (Jacob's ladder), E: *Valeriana officinalis* (All-heal)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS04

Water's Edge

PERENNIAL LOW TO HIGH FERTILITY SOILS

For periodic wetland and damp clay soils

With a high percentage of British natives and wetland wildflower species, this meadow balances a combination of spring, summer, and autumn plants which either thrive or tolerate living in moist and waterlogged soils.

Preferred moisture range — Dry and wet soils.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun to light shade.

Recommended location — All bioswale or pond edge and wet environments with seasonal variations where a high floral impact and high pollinator value is wanted, and a more 'natural' content is appropriate.

Height details — Medium to high with main components 10cm to 30cm tall with small percentage of taller emergents.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>								
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Cerise Queen'								
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>								
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>								
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>								
<i>Clarkia unguiculata</i>								
<i>Daucus carota</i>								
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>								
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>								
<i>Geum rivale</i>								
<i>Geranium pratense</i>								
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>								
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>								
<i>Lysimachia punctata</i>								
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>								
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>								
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>								
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i> 'Pink Gem'								
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>								
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>								
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>								
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>								
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>								
<i>Trifolium rubens</i>								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Cardamine pratensis* (Cuckoo flower), B: *Filipendula ulmaria* (Meadowsweet), C: *Lythrum salicaria* (Purple loosestrife), D: *Sanguisorba officinalis* (Great burnet), E: *Saponaria officinalis* (Soapwort)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS05



Native Meadow

PERENNIAL | AVERAGE TO LOWER FERTILITY SOILS

British native species only

A traditional, subtle-looking meadow, exclusively using dependable British native wildflowers. Designed with the most vivid and robust flowering native plants to delight and demonstrate to the world how beautiful our meadows can be. The predominant display is from June to August.

Preferred moisture range — Free-draining soils.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun.

Recommended location — All ornamental landscape and garden situations where a more subtle, native look is required such as a traditional or rural scene.

Height details — Low to medium height with main components 30 to 60cm tall but containing a smaller percentage of taller emergents that add contrast and drama.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>								
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>								
<i>Betonica officinalis</i>								
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> 'Blue Boy'								
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>								
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>								
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>								
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>								
<i>Daucus carota</i>								
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>								
<i>Galium verum</i>								
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> (mixed)								
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>								
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>								
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>								
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>								
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>								
<i>Linaria purpurea</i>								
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>								
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>								
<i>Primula veris</i>								
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>								
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>								
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>								
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>								
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>								
<i>Silene dioica</i>								
<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>								
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Achillea millefolium* (Yarrow), B: *Daucus carota* (Bishop's lace), C: *Linaria purpurea* (Purple toadflax), D: *Rhinanthus minor* (Yellow rattle), E: *Sanguisorba minor* (Salad burnet)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS06



Persian Carpet

PERENNIAL AVERAGE TO VERY LOW FERTILITY SOILS

Dainty with very long flowering season

Sunny and free-draining Mediterranean style mix. A real impressionist Pictorial Meadow, combining dainty fine-leaved species with some architectural shapes and foliage for contrast with complex and subtle colour combinations throughout the year.

Preferred moisture range — Designed for well-drained soils. Perfect for sandy, chalk and limestone soils.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun.

Recommended location — All ornamental landscape and garden situations where a high floral impact, high pollinator value, reliable and very long season display is required. Especially good for more stressed and very dry environments such as roadsides, embankments, raised planters and rubble gardens.

Height details — Medium height with main components 20 to 60cm tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>								
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> 'Cassis'								
<i>Ammi majus</i>								
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>								
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>								
<i>Catananche caerulea</i>								
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>								
<i>Clarkia elegans</i> 'Scarlet Queen'								
<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>								
<i>Daucus carota</i> 'Purple Rain'								
<i>Echium vulgare</i>								
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>								
<i>Galium verum</i>								
<i>Iberis umbellata</i> 'Dwarf Fairy Mixed'								
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>								
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>								
<i>Lychnis viscaria</i>								
<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>								
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>								
<i>Malva moschata</i>								
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>								
<i>Primula veris</i>								
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>								
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>								
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>								
<i>Scabiosa caucasica</i> 'Pura Blue'								
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>								
<i>Verbascum phoeniceum</i>								
<i>Verbascum nigrum</i> var <i>album</i>								
<i>Veronica spicata</i>								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: *Dianthus carthusianorum* (German pink), B: *Lychnis viscaria* (Sticky catchfly), C: *Salvia pratensis* (Meadow clary), D: *Verbascum nigrum* album (Black mullein), E: *Veronica spicata* (Spiked speedwell)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS07



Tuscan Hills

PERENNIAL | AVERAGE TO VERY LOW FERTILITY SOILS

Mediterranean style flowers with some ornamental grasses

Inspired by the sun-drenched hillsides of Tuscany, this mix has a hot and dreamy colour theme that will bring the warmth and drama of a southern European meadow landscape to your outdoor spaces.

Preferred moisture range — Well drained soils with a high tolerance for drought stress once well established.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun.

Recommended location — All ornamental landscape and garden situations with free draining lower fertility soils, where a more Mediterranean style meadow is suitable and there is space for some of the taller later flowering species. Good pollinator value, reliable and a good long season display, this mix performs exceptionally well in areas of hotter drier summers.

Height details — Medium to tall height with main components from 30cm to 1.2m tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Ammi visnaga								
Achillea millefolium								
Achillea millefolium 'Summer Pastels'								
Anthemis tinctoria								
Asclepias tuberosa								
Alyssum saxatile 'Gold Ball'								
Aster amellus								
Coreopsis tinctoria 'Standard'								
Echium vulgare								
Echinacea pallida								
Eragrostis curvula								
Eryngium planum								
Festuca longifolia								
Gaillardia aristata 'Bremen'								
Geum chilense 'Mrs J Bradshaw'								
Galium verum								
Hyssopus officinalis								
Leucanthemum vulgare								
Linum grandiflorum var. rubrum								
Lychnis viscaria								
Oenothera odorata								
Ononis spinosa								
Origanum vulgare								
Primula veris								
Ratibida columnifera 'Red Midget'								
Salvia pratensis								
Salvia nemorosa 'Violet Queen'								
Solidago rigida								
Verbena bonariensis								
Verbascum nigrum								

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly weed), B: Gaillardia aristata 'Bremen' (Blanket flower), C: Linum grandiflorum rubrum (Flowering flax), D: Salvia nemorosa (Balkan clary), E: Salvia pratensis (Meadow clary)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

PS08



Cottage Garden

PERENNIAL LOW TO VERY LOW FERTILITY SOILS

Colourful reliable mix

A tall dramatic, colourful, and long season meadow reminiscent of old-fashioned cottage gardens. This meadow offers fantastic variety and is packed full of species providing drama and colour from early spring, right through to late autumn.

Preferred moisture range — Well drained soils and with a high tolerance for drought stress once well established.

Shade tolerance — Best in full sun.

Recommended location — Ideal for ornamental landscapes and gardens that are suitable for a cottage garden or vibrant Mediterranean-style meadow, with room for taller, later-flowering species. Especially well-suited for brownfield development land, crushed bricks, and poor, free draining soils.

Height details — Medium to tall height with main components from 30cm to 2m tall.



Core species, colours and flowering period

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Achillea filipendulina 'Cloth of Gold'								
Anthemis tinctoria								
Alyssum saxatile 'Gold Ball'								
Alcea ficifolia 'Hybrids Happy Lights'								
Cichorium intybus								
Calendula officinalis								
Centaurea scabiosa								
Centranthus ruber								
Daucus carota								
Dianthus carthusianorum								
Echium vulgare								
Echinacea purpurea								
Eschscholzia californica 'Single Mix'								
Eryngium planum								
Malva moschata								
Linum perenne								
Lychnis coronaria								
Oenothera odorata								
Oenothera biennis								
Oenothera missouriensis								
Origanum vulgare								
Salvia nemorosa 'Violet Queen'								
Thymus vulgaris								
Verbena bonariensis								
Verbascum nigrum								
Verbascum olympicum								

100% flower mix

All colours are an indicative guide only

Look out for these distinctive species:



A: Alyssum saxatile (Basket of gold), B: Centranthus ruber (Red valerian), C: Alcea ficifolia (Hollyhock), D: Echinacea purpurea (Purple coneflower), E: Verbascum olympicum (Candlewick plant)

TO ORDER: 0114 267 7635 or pictorialmeadows.co.uk

Success with your Perennial Meadow Mix

Establishment

For Pictorial Meadows Perennial Seed Mixes®, we consider the first whole growing season as the establishment period, from sowing the seed right through to the end of the year cut and collect. The more you invest in the establishment year, the more you will enjoy a long term impact. It takes skill, attention to detail, and some very timely interventions to establish a great perennial meadow from seed.

When: Perennial seeds can be sown between September and May but the best time to sow is autumn. Anytime from early September through to November as the ground is workable and the seeds benefit from a colder spell that aids spring germination. They can, however, also be sown throughout the winter and throughout spring as long as the soil remains workable. Avoid summer sowing unless you can provide plentiful regular irrigation. Autumn sowings can achieve very successful schemes, and this favours many of the slower growing species. Autumn sown schemes are much less likely to need spring irrigation but may have a reduced first-year flowering as some species have

seed or seedlings that don't all survive in cold, wet winter soils. Early spring sowing usually gives reliable results, as there is sufficient moisture for initial germination without irrigation, and a balance between fast and slow-growing species is achieved. However, irrigation will be needed as the plants and season progress with warmer and dryer weather. Good establishment in early spring guarantees a great first year flowering display.

Where: Most of the Pictorial Meadows® perennials do best if sown in full sun and free-draining soils, with the exceptions of Woodland Edge and Water's Edge, which will cope with semi-shade and waterlogged conditions, respectively. All the perennial mixes are designed to adapt to quite a wide range of soil types, but soils and location make a difference in how each meadow will evolve and change over time. Do check out the mix descriptors so that you can best match a mix to your location.

Weeds: Getting a spotless seedbed before sowing is essential. This means removing all visible weeds, especially grass. Do not sow into existing grass or other vegetation, as this will lead to failure.

Soil preparation: Prepare when dry, in average, free draining soils. Once weeds have been removed, shallow cultivate the ground and form a nice level seedbed that has a fine, crumbly texture.

Mulch: Seed-sown perennials don't do well if there is a lot of weed competition in the first year. If you suspect your soil is not clean of both visible weeds and the less visible weed seed bank, then it makes a substantial difference to the long-term meadow success if you sow the seed onto a sterile mulch. The function of a mulch is to help suppress the germination of annual seeds that can be in the underlying soils. It will need to be spread evenly over the prepared seedbed to an average depth of 100 mm, just before sowing. We recommend clean sand for this purpose as it's readily available, sterile and cost-effective.

Sowing Rate: Pictorial Meadows® perennials should be sown at a rate of 2g per square metre. Most sites can be sown quite successfully and quickly by hand, but you can also contact us for our machine meadow sowing services for larger areas or wherever you feel you need some specialist help.

How to sow: We always recommend sowing by hand in dry weather as this gives the best results. Mix your seed thoroughly with an inert carrier material such as builders' sand, with an approximate rate of five parts

sand to one part seeds, but a minimum overall quantity to broadcast over the whole area twice. The sand will help to carry the seed over the seedbed and enable you to see the area sown. Sow the seed/sand mix evenly over the whole area twice by scattering first in one direction and then again in another direction.

Raking or Rolling: After the seed/carrier mix is sown onto the surface, it is beneficial for germination that seeds are lightly raked or firmed into the soil surface using the back of a rake, or Cambridge roller. This can only be done in dry weather when the seed and soil will not stick while raking or rolling. Do not rake in deeply as this is a common cause of failure.

Watering: If you experience warm, dry weather between the end of April to late June, then irrigation will make a considerable difference to the long-term success of your meadow. This may not be necessary in most years as there is enough rainfall, but the small seedlings are sensitive to lack of moisture. The best irrigation technique is to provide a thorough soaking with a fine spray every three days if there is no natural rainfall.

HOW TO ORDER:

By phone **0114 267 7635** or enquire through the website **www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk**



Woodland Edge -
see page 21

Growth: Germination will only take place when there is sufficient moisture and warmth in the soil. Germination is much slower than with annuals, and many species emerge at different times, although in a regular British year, most seedlings will appear in late spring to early summer onwards. With the right moisture you could expect to see the first signs of germination after 10-14 days. If you experience warm, dry weather during the establishment period, then irrigation will make a considerable difference to the growth and long-term success of your meadow as the small seedlings are sensitive to lack of moisture. The best irrigation technique is to provide a thorough soaking every three days if there is no natural rainfall.

Establishment

Cuts: We recommend doing at least one mid-season establishment cut & collect. This will help to check growth on any invading annual weeds and stops the faster growing or emerging perennials from dominating. After a cut, essential light and water reach the slower growing species and allows them to catch up. It also encourages basal shooting and stronger root development, which in turn helps to close out bare ground.

We suggest letting the seedlings grow to about 150mm in height, then cutting back to about 75mm using a collector mower on a high setting. Collect and remove as much of the cut material as possible. Although this will delay the flowering display in the first year, it will encourage the development of more healthy plants to ensure successful displays in the future.

If you don't want to do establishment cuts because you are keen on an earlier flowering display in the first year, the perennial mixes contain a small proportion of sacrificial annuals that will give colour in the first season. However, if there is fertile soil, we do recommend establishment cuts to prevent initial rapid growth and create the best meadow in the long term.

Weeding: Pictorial Meadows® perennials benefit from very active weed control in the establishment year. While a cut

and collect will check the growth on annual weeds, the perennial weeds will need active control. The less weed contamination there is, the more the desirable species will thrive, eventually forming a strong root, leaf and flower canopy that helps deter weeds in future years.

Aftercare

Cut and Collect: To keep your meadow healthy and looking good for years to come it will need some intervention. The one task common to all meadow schemes is an end of season cut and collect. This controls annual weeds and woody growth and promotes fresh growth of desirable plant species. The cut can take place any time after flowering has finished and seed has set. However, a cut and collect can also be done any time of year for various results.

Cutting down in spring when the plants have started to put on foliage will promote later flowering (this is often referred to as 'The Chelsea Chop'). A spring cut can also help to promote a more compact meadow especially if the site conditions result in vigorous growth and leggy plants. A summer cut can be used if a particular flower is dominating to reduce the number of plants. This can be done when a particular plant is in flower. A late autumn cut can be used if the meadow has become visually unacceptable - once the flower

has gone and the seed has set. However, the dead stems can also look attractive especially with a frost and can provide a wildlife habitat for winter birds, small mammals, and insects. A winter cut between January and before spring is the latest the meadow should be cut before new growth starts to appear.

Weeding: While the cut and collect can keep any annual weeds under control, it is the more competitive perennial broadleaf weeds which we need to look out for such as docks, thistles, bindweed, rank grass, nettles and brambles and if left unchecked these can take a hold. Therefore, every spring around May and again in mid-summer it is worth looking over the meadow and removing these weeds.

Life Expectancy: With thorough initial weed control, establishment irrigation and proactive aftercare, these Biodiversity Rich Range mixes have proven to offer long lived displays for over 15 years or more. Where maintenance is restricted to just an annual cut and collect per year, expect more rapid incursion of grasses and wildflowers over time and a developing appearance over time more like a country verge.

Future Proofing

Pictorial Meadows Seed® maximises adaptation and resilience to future climate changes.

The Pictorial Meadows Seed® ranges comprise of over 500 different kinds of wildflowers. This rich diversity of species provides considerable climate resilience. The plants themselves have originated from a wide geographical area and whilst many are UK natives, the inclusion of wildflowers from more diverse climatic conditions are extending meadow resilience to the increasing extreme weather incidents that we are experiencing.

Without the need to irrigate following establishment, we have seen the meadows thrive in our increasingly hotter and dryer

summers. Having also been tested for survival in the cooler, damper winters of Northern England they also appear to be thriving across Scotland and as far north as Finland. Different species exhibit varied means of survival, from very deep rooting to the ability to self-propagate through seed production.

The breadth of species introduced within the Pictorial Meadows Seed® range means that in every conceivable micro habitat there will be a dynamic adaptation going on within the overall community that can flex and adapt with the changing climate.



Cornfield - see page 14

Turkish Delight - see page 19



Contribution toward carbon neutrality

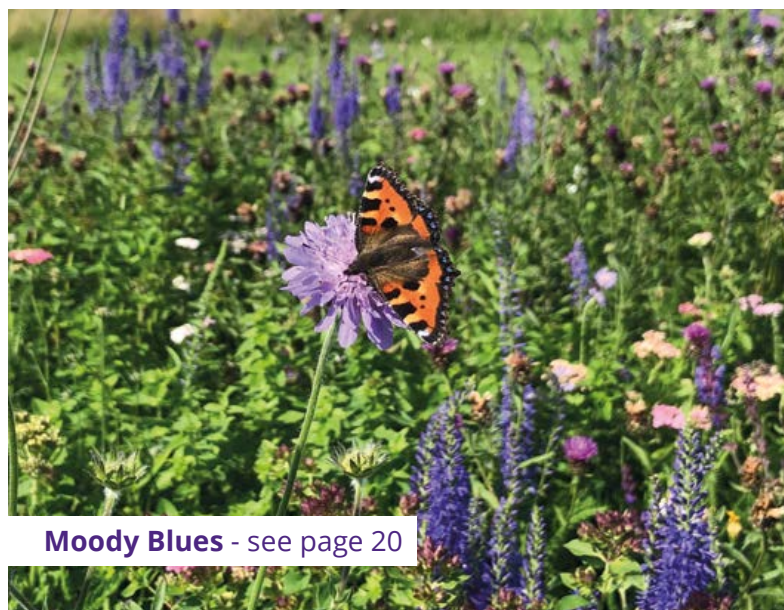
Pictorial Meadows® were developed originally as a high value yet low maintenance alternative to mown grass and ornamental floral borders, both of which are resource heavy.

Planting established by seed, can give high densities upwards of 200 plants per square metre, with much lower resources required when compared to other planting methods. Maintenance can be reduced to a simple spring weed check and just one annual cut and collect per year, significantly reducing fuel consumption when compared to cut grass or other ornamental flower displays.

Annual cutting material can all be composted by green waste recycling and the meadow

‘compost’ is then also a means of improving soil health, reducing irrigation needs and really importantly cutting down on chemical and manual weed control across the wider urban landscape.

Every square metre of meadows planted will help take carbon out of the atmosphere. A seed sown, biodiversity rich, Pictorial Meadows is a viable alternative to more resource intensive ornamental planting. Establishing long term planting through seed carries a far smaller environmental footprint than other planted solutions, as they do not require peat composts, plastics or expensive transportation and do not carry phytosanitary risks.



Moody Blues - see page 20



Sundance - see page 07

‘The combination of pictorial mixes and the skill of the gardener is the winning combination and I think they should be used so much more in public space projects.’

John Little

Good for People and Planet

Pictorial Meadows® are designed not just for improved environmental resilience but to be especially attractive and valuable for pollinators and people.

These meadows have an exceptionally high floral content as well as an extended and very varied flowering period. Unlike many horticultural hybrid flowers that have been bred primarily for bloom size, these wildflowers still rely on their natural attributes to attract pollinators helping them to spread and survive.

In addition, the plants themselves provide a great habitat for much more of our native fauna and are an especially valuable winter source of oil rich seeds for birds, and what normally attracts bees and butterflies also pleases people! The many forms of foliage and flower, and the almost daily changes in colour and form literally buzzing with life, provides a rich sensory experience especially where people can immerse themselves close to, and within, the meadows.

Where to use

Pictorial Meadows Seed® has a wide range of applications in gardens and green spaces including on roof tops, in rain gardens, wet/dry locations, areas in shade, semi-shade or full sun and in various types of soil. It can be a temporary or permanent meadow planting scheme. You just need to choose the mix that best suits your site conditions.



Our Story

The Green Estate Community Interest Company is a social enterprise based in Sheffield working across the UK and the EU.

Our headquarters and the centre for Pictorial Meadows® are at the heart of our beautiful 42 hectare urban oasis at the top of a hill in Sheffield.

Once a medieval deer park, home to the Earl of Shrewsbury and Bess of Hardwick, and the nationally significant John Fox pottery Manor Ware, The Green Estate was originally set up as a small heritage and environment project, and is now a large social enterprise trading across the UK and in the EU. From the Sheffield Manor Lodge and Turret House (Scheduled Ancient Monument) on our Estate, where Mary Queen of Scots was once imprisoned, to the Tower of London Moat, you will find our beautiful Pictorial Meadows® across the country and beyond.

Over the last 25 years, The Green Estate has grown in size, impact and expertise in sustainable landscaping, heritage and community services with a focus on growing engaging, adaptive and resilient urban places. When you buy our products and services, you are investing in this vital mission!

We are delighted that King Charles III has given us his seal of approval through the King's Award for Enterprise in Sustainable Development.

On behalf of all at The Green Estate CIC, thank you for your interest and support.

Roz Davies FRSA MBA
CEO, The Green Estate

Find out more: [greenestate.org](https://www.greenestate.org)

Terms and conditions available on our website.

Pictorial Meadows® is trusted by reputable clients including:

The National Trust
Historic Royal Palaces
The Trentham Estate
The University of Sheffield
Blenheim Palace
Landform Consultants Ltd
Groundwork London
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Nottingham Trent University
South Yorkshire Housing Association
Idverde
Newcastle City Council
Corserv Cornwall Council

London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames
Kirklees and Wakefield Council
Sheffield City Council
St Mary's University
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Blenheim Park Developments Ltd
Sky UK Ltd
Ground Control Ltd
Ashlea Ltd
Lambeth Council
Manx National Heritage Centre
Maylim Ltd

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Part of:



COMMUNITY
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Our accreditations:

