

Flowers 'N' Grass is a mixture of 15% native and naturalized wildflowers and 85% Azay sheeps fescue. Flowers 'N' Grass contains a mix of at least 12 native and naturalized wildflowers specially formulated for our area. It contains annual biennial and perennial wildflowers.

FLOWERS 'N' GRASS

W I L D F L O W E R S

DESCRIPTION:

Flowers 'N' Grass is intended for use as a low maintenance ground cover. It should be used in areas where the attractiveness of wildflower must be accompanied by the soil stabilization and erosion control of Azay sheeps fescue. The Azay sheeps fescue was developed in Europe for use as a low maintenance grass. It has a blue-green color, has good heat, drought and cold tolerance and is intended to provide a tough, durable, perennial ground cover without crowding out the wildflowers.

USAGE:

It is important to provide a good seed bed for wildflowers as they generally compete poorly with established weeds and grasses. The ground should be rototilled or scarified to provide good seed to soil contact and should be as free as possible of weed and grass competition. Unless the soil is very depleted, no pre-plant fertilizer is recommended.

A spring planting before anticipated rainfall is best. Summer plantings can also be successful with adequate irrigation or rainfall to ensure germination and establishment. Late summer seedings should allow at least 8 weeks before the first expected frost. Dormant seedings in late fall and winter can also be successful and the seed will normally germinate during spring as the soil warms.

SEEDING:

A seeding rate of 25 – 30 lbs. per acre is recommended. Higher seeding rates will provide a quicker ground cover, but may result in the grass crowding out the wildflower. An inert carrier, such as vermiculite, may be helpful to evenly spread the seed. Seeding can be accomplished with a drill (plant to a depth of 1/8 – 1/4 inch and firm well) or with a drop spreader, cyclone spreader or by hand. Spread seed as evenly as possible and rake very lightly. Weed free straw or peat moss can be used as mulch. Best results are obtained if the soil is kept moist for a month after planting. Some wildflower and grass seedlings will normally appear in two weeks and others will take up to four weeks.

MAINTENANCE:

The earliest blooms may appear 6 – 8 weeks after seeding. Others will appear later throughout the spring and summer. Most perennials will not flower until the second year.

No fertilizer is recommended unless the soil is of very low fertility. Fertilizer generally encourages weeds and grasses at the expense of wildflowers. Irrigation may be helpful during periods of drought and will usually increase the amount of flowering and the length of blooming.

After flowering is completed in the late summer or fall, one mowing is desirable. This mowing will help spread seed for next year's flowers and will also improve appearance.