

23	Chewing's Fescue	<i>(Festuca rubra subsp. Commutate)</i>	<i>P</i>
24	Sweet Vernal Grass	<i>(Anthoxanthum odoratum)</i>	<i>P</i>
25	Smaller Cat's Tail	<i>(Phleum bertolonii)</i>	<i>P</i>
26	Dwarf Cultivar	<i>(Lolium perenne)</i>	<i>P</i>

Key: P = Perennial; B = Biennial; A = Annual

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1. Wildflower Species Rich Turf

1.1	Wildflower Turf (WFT-Species-Rich-26) is a soil-free turf system that is species rich when compared with the monoculture of a conventional lawn. It has a high grass inclusion rate and is treated as a traditional lawn as opposed to a wildflower meadow. It has been developed for projects requiring greater BREEAM points than standard amenity lawn turf. It is nursery grown to produce a mat of wildflowers and grasses that retains 100% of its root system.	
1.2	The turf is made up of UK native wildflowers and grasses, with a minimum of 10-20% wildflowers although bespoke mixes are produced to order.	
1.3	The soil-less growing technique uses an inert, pH modified, low nutrient, compost based growing medium that is compatible with all Wildflower Turf Limited products.	
1.4	A fine degradable net is incorporated in the root zone of the turf to provide stability and strength, whilst maintaining a relatively lightweight turf slab ranging from 15-20kgs/m ² (depending on maturity and moisture content when lifted).	
1.5	Turf size will vary with application but is generally 1m x 0.64m = 0.64m ² slabbed OR 1.62m x 0.77m = 1.25m ² rolled per turf on pallets. Larger 2 x 20m (40m ²) roll sizes are also available. They can each weigh between 750-900kgs each and need special machinery to offload and roll out on site.	

2. Wildflower Turf Preparation and Installation

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2.1	Existing vegetation should be killed or removed. Dig over or rotovate the soil to at least 100mm deep and rake over to create a reasonably fine tilth. Remove large stones, roots or clods of earth as it is important that the roots of the plants in the turf are all in close contact with the soil.	Soil preparation
2.2	Ensure soil is not waterlogged or compacted prior to laying the turf. The soil does not need to be fertilized before laying the turf. The turf has been designed for occasional fertilizer application depending on the individual site and soil composition. We would advise not stripping back the top soil to reduce soil fertility before using Wildflower Turf as it needs some level of fertility to get well-established initially and is an unnecessary ground preparation step. However, where soil is fertile, particular attention must be paid to the maintenance regime – see section 3.1	Soil conditions and fertility
2.3	The turf needs to be laid on a minimum of 100mm (4 inches) of growing medium or soil, the deeper the soil depth the greater capability of moisture retention and less irrigation required. There is usually no need to import top soil unless the levels on site are not sufficient or there is just sub-soil. In this case, a thin layer of 25-50mm (minimum) of top soil with greater than 0.15% organic nitrogen, less than 26mg/l of phosphorus and a low weed seed bank is recommended. Avoid compaction of subsoil layer. Please refer to Wildflower Turf Ltd if unsure. Care should be taken to ensure that all joints are butted up correctly to prevent the growth of weeds. Do not overlap the turf at the joints or create tension so joints pull apart or shrink.	Laying the turf
2.4	Once laid, water the turf thoroughly, for the first couple of weeks (weather dependent), until the turf is rooted in. Ensure the soil underneath the turf is damp to be sure you have given it adequate water. Do this by lifting a corner of the turf. Do not allow the turf to dry out while it establishes, which should take approximately 2-3 weeks (weather dependent). Do not over water the turf, as this can promote grass domination in the sward. Once established the species rich mix can be fairly drought tolerant and shouldn't need watering again.	Watering

3. Wildflower Species Rich Turf Maintenance

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3.1	Generally no fertilizer is needed due to the capacity of a number of the species in this turf fixing nitrogen. However in some circumstances, for example where the turf is on very low fertility soil such as sand or gravel, the addition of a light dose of fertilizer before or soon after laying can be beneficial. If this is the case, a light dose every spring, may improve plant development. Please refer to Wildflower Turf Ltd.	Fertilizer
3.2	Once established Wildflower Species Rich Turf requires regular mowing through the growing season to ensure the area can be used as a lawn. The mowing interval should not exceed 2 weeks during the growing season. Cutting the plants back to 2 to 4 inches (50 to 100mm) in length ensures species diversity within the lawn area. All cuttings should be removed.	Cutting regime
3.3	Mowing should take place from early spring through to late autumn to coincide with the plants seasonal growth. After the autumn it is important to remove any leaf litter that falls on the area. If the areas are shaded by trees, ensure that fallen twigs and leaves are removed throughout the autumn period.	Timing the cuts