

Recreating Grassland

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Ref. MIXRG

This is a typical example of the mixtures which have been used to re-create grassland from arable or intensive grass under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. If you enter HLS and have a requirement to recreate grassland then your RDS advisor will prescribe a list of species to use. Often the list will be the same or similar to the mixture below, if not then please fax, email or phone the details through and we will cost the seed mix.

The mixture below is suitable for sowing on most soil types ranging from clays to calcareous. Frequently this type of mixture provides grass for grazing or hay production and the mixture is formulated with this in mind. However, the mixture can be varied to suit individual requirements.

This long term mixture is best sown from mid March until mid September. Many of the species included have small seeds and should therefore be surface sown onto a fine, firm seedbed. If broadcast, the seed should be lightly harrowed and rolled.

We recommend sowing a minimum of 25 kg per hectare.

5%	certified common bentgrass
10%	certified sheeps fescue
30%	certified meadow fescue
15%	certified red fescue
20%	certified smooth meadowgrass
20%	certified timothy

£3.42 per kg

Parkland Grassland

Low Maintenance

Ref. MIXPGLM

A slow growing and more manageable seeds mixture for those with low requirements from permanent grassland. This mixture can be grazed periodically or topped to keep a tidy appearance. Sow between March and early May or August and late September at 15 kg per acre or 37 kg per hectare.

5%	certified common bentgrass
5%	certified crested dogstail
20%	certified smaller catstail
25%	certified sheeps fescue
25%	certified red fescue
20%	certified smooth meadowgrass

£5.15 per kg

Objectives

Environmental Stewardship provides the opportunity to re-create grassland. There are many reasons why you may apply for this option. These include the prevention of soil erosion, the protection of locally distinctive landscapes and features and for provision of habitats for waders and wildfowl.

Only farmers entering Higher Level Stewardship will consider this option as it will not be applicable to those in Entry Level. We expect that there will be limited funds for this and it will be highly competitive. However, we believe that payments will be attractive for those who are successful.

Realistic Expectations from Forage

The grass or grass/wild flower habitats that will be created offer only limited forage value. Many of you have experience with similar grassland re-creation schemes under ESA or CSS management agreements. The new scheme will deliver similar results. The forage quality from ES mixtures will be lower than that of an intensive ley. Additionally, due to grazing management rules and restrictions on the use of fertiliser some of the grasses will become fibrous and less palatable to livestock. The use of clover would help but in our experience this is usually disallowed. However, this problem is compensated for by the generous payments available.

The Addition of Wild Flowers

Due to a low acreage of seed production and high demand for seed the addition of wild flowers is more expensive than grasses alone. But within HLS there is a payment (GS) which if successfully applied for will pay 100% of the cost of native seed. Refer to page 12 of HLS Payments for Land Management Options booklet from RDS for further details.

Grass and Flower Seed for Environmental Stewardship

Our list of grass species for Environmental Stewardship is as follows. Please feel free to change our mixtures for your own circumstances. If you require advice please ask your Stewardship adviser or call Cotswold Seeds on 0800 252211.

GRASSES	Price/kg
Cocksfoot (<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>)	£3.00
Common Bent (<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>)	£7.20
Creeping Red Fescue (<i>Festuca rubra rubra</i>)	£2.00
Crested Dogstail (<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>)	£7.50
Late Perennial Ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>)	£2.30
Meadow Fescue (<i>Festuca pratensis</i>)	£2.60
Meadow Foxtail (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>)	£28.00
Red Fescue (<i>Festuca rubra commutata</i>)	£2.60
Rough Stalked Meadowgrass (<i>Poa trivialis</i>)	£4.00
Sheeps Fescue (<i>Festuca ovina</i>)	£3.50
Smaller Cat's-tail/Timothy (<i>Phleum bert.</i>)	£9.00
Smooth Meadowgrass (<i>Poa pratensis</i>)	£3.90
Sweet Vernal Grass (<i>Anthox. odoratum</i>)	£42.90
Tall Fescue (<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>)	£3.40
Timothy (<i>Phleum pratense</i>)	£2.40
Upright Brome (<i>Bromus erectus</i>)	£14.00
Yellow Oatgrass (<i>Trisetum flavescens</i>)	£36.00
Yorkshire Fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>)	£14.00

NATIVE PERENNIAL WILD FLOWERS

Birdsfoot Trefoil (<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>)	£189.00
Cowslip (<i>Primula veris</i>)	£259.00
Field Scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>)	£189.00
Ladys Bedstraw (<i>Galium verum</i>)	£58.00
Lesser Knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>)	£118.00
Meadow Buttercup (<i>Ranunculus acris</i>)	£85.00
Meadowsweet (<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>)	£142.00
Musk Mallow (<i>Malva moschata</i>)	£123.00
Ox-eye Daisy (<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>)	£84.00
Ragged-Robin (<i>Lychinis flos-cuculi</i>)	£155.00
Red Champion (<i>Silene dioica</i>)	£58.00
Red Clover (<i>Trifolium pratense</i>)	£7.00
Ribwort Plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>)	£47.00
Self Heal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>)	£56.00
Salad Burnet (<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>)	£57.00
Sheeps Sorrel (<i>Rumex acetosella</i>)	£135.00
Teasel (<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>)	£129.00
White Champion (<i>Silene latifolia</i>)	£64.00
Wild Carrot (<i>Daucus carota</i>)	£98.00
Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	£78.00

NATIVE ANNUAL WILD FLOWERS

Corn Chamomile (<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>)	£59.00
Corn Cockle (<i>Agrostemma githago</i>)	£38.00
Cornflower (<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>)	£115.00
Corn Marigold (<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>)	£82.00
Field Poppy (<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>)	£39.00
Yellow Rattle (<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>)	£143.00