

# MULTI-SPECIES SWARDS



**FARMING**  
connect  
cyswllt  
**FFERMIO**

Nitrogen Fixing	Anthelmintic Properties	Mineral-rich	Drought Tolerant	Flowering Plants
<b>Species:</b> Legumes; Clovers, Birdsfoot trefoil, Sainfoin, Vetches, Lucerne	<b>Species:</b> Sainfoin, Chicory, Birdsfoot trefoil	<b>Species:</b> Herbs; Chicory, Plantain, Burnett, Yarrow, Sheep's parsley	<b>Species:</b> Chicory, Plantain, Burnet, Yarrow, Cocksfoot, Sheep's Parsley, Lucerne, Sainfoin	<b>Species:</b> Birdsfoot trefoil, Chicory, Burnet, Lucerne
<b>Benefits:</b> Reduce artificial Nitrogen use and build soil fertility	<b>Benefits:</b> Reduced worm burden	<b>Benefits:</b> Make available dietary minerals that would normally have to be provided by supplementation	<b>Benefits:</b> Deep rooting systems give access to moisture deeper in the ground, acting as a sponge in wet conditions, while tap roots break up compacted soil layers	<b>Benefits:</b> Increase biodiversity and attract beneficial pollinators

## Properties of key sward species:

Grasses - high energy  
Legumes - high protein  
Herbs - provide micronutrients

## Establishment

Deal with **weeds** prior to sowing

**Timing** - warm soil, above 8°C and moisture

Cultivate / harrow to fine tilth and **broadcast sow** if possible (if drilling ensure max 1cm depth)

**Consolidate!** Roll, roll and roll again

Spring sowing

APR  
MAY

Light grazing

JUN  
JUL

Autumn sowing

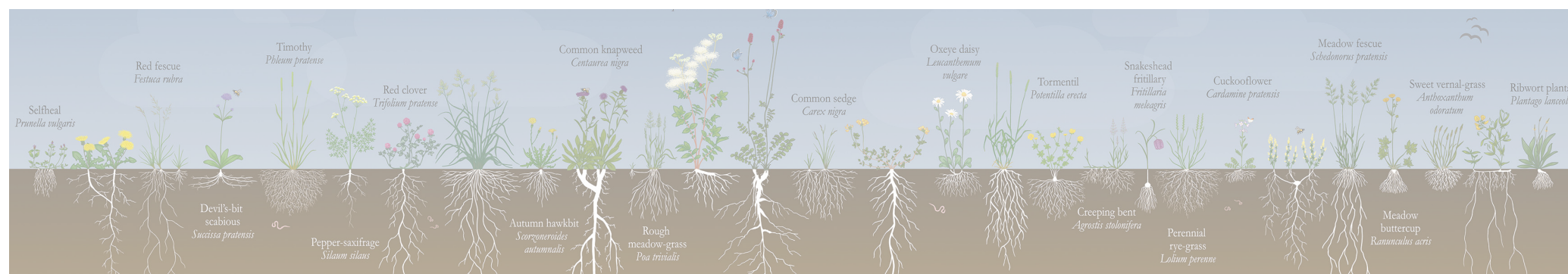
AUG  
SEP

Light grazing

OCT  
NOV

## Management

Lightly graze 6-8 weeks after establishment to control weeds and encourage tillering  
Be careful not to over-graze in first year; leave plenty of leaf on the sward for ground cover  
Rotationally graze for best results  
Rotation length will be dependent on season and sward content



# Seed Mix Calculator

Grass/Herb/ Legume	Species	Average price per kg summer 2020	Quoted price per kg	kg in mix	Total cost of component
Grass	Cocksfoot	5.73			
	Creeping Red Fescue	4.00			
	HRG	3.99			
	IRG	3.10			
	Meadow Fescue	4.95			
	PRG	4.83			
	Smooth Stalked	7.15			
	Sweet Vernal Grass	53.08			
	Tall Fescue	4.55			
	Timothy	4.70			
Herb	Burnet	10.74			
	Chicory	16.45			
	Plantain	18.92			
	Sheeps Parsley	12.07			
	Yarrow	32.82			
Legume	Alsike Clover	10.55			
	Balansa Clover	8.79			
	Birdsfoot Trefoil	25.10			
	Lucerne	7.09			
	Red Clover	8.14			
	Sainfoin	2.62			
	Sweet Clover	6.29			
	Vetch	2.19			
	White Clover	11.43			
Anything else					
<b>TOTALS</b>					

Cost of mix per kg	(Total cost of components ÷ total kg in mix)	
Sowing rate (kg/ac)	14	
Sowing rate (kg/ha)	34.6	
Cost per ac	(Cost of mix per kg × sowing rate (kg ÷ ha))	
Cost per ha	(Cost of mix per kg × sowing rate (kg ÷ ha))	

## NOTES:

[www.gov.wales/farmingconnect](http://www.gov.wales/farmingconnect)



Ariennir gan  
**Lywodraeth Cymru**  
Funded by  
**Welsh Government**