

**Wagers Flat – Seeding Proposals**  
**JRN 1/04/14**

For seeding now

The general purpose meadow grass seed mix from Emorsgate with the addition of a small quantity (c 0.2% of each) of birds foot trefoil and meadow clover. See links below. The aim of this is:

- to achieve a cover of grasses to minimise soil erosion and colonisation by weeds and provide some value to farm livestock asap
- to introduce wildflower species which are difficult to collect by hand or machine locally and which are of value to invertebrates. These legumes will also fix nitrogen and increase the fodder value of the grassland.

I would suggest that the weed seeds present in the soil are allowed to germinate this spring and are then treated with an appropriate herbicide to reduce the need for further herbicide use once the seed is established. Seeding should then take place.

Emorsgate EG1 General Purpose Meadow Grass Mixture:

<http://wildseed.co.uk/mixtures/view/36>

Emorsgate Birds foot trefoil <http://wildseed.co.uk/species/view/79>

Emorsgate Meadow clover <http://wildseed.co.uk/species/view/146>

The General purpose grass seed mix is made up of:

- 10 % *Agrostis capillaris* Common Bent
- 50 % *Cynosurus cristatus* Crested Dogtail
- 35 % *Festuca rubra* Slender-creeping Red-fescue
- 5% *Phleum bertolonii* Smaller Cat's-tail

If preferred I'm sure that Geoff Eyre from Eyres at Brough would be happy to make up this mix. He may also be able to source the meadow clover and birds foot trefoil but it is important that these come from a reputable source and are of British origin.

The field must be in the order of 2 ha. So 100kg of the grass seed mix will be needed and 200g of each of the birds foot trefoil and meadow clover. For 2ha the total cost will be less than £1000.

For seeding in August/September

Locally collected wildflower seeds to include at least 3 of the following: ox-eye daisy, meadow vetchling, common knapweed, rough hawkbit, hay rattle, common catsear, autumn hawkbit.

This can be harvested by hand and we would be happy to give permission for the seed to be sourced from the Authorities trails. There are at least 3 Peak District contractors who can carry out this work at very reasonable rates (with Adrian Rochford being normally the most reasonable and reliable). The seed needs to be sown into 8 4m<sup>2</sup> plots per hectare in the autumn at the rate of approx. 20g per plot. Assuming the area is approx. 2 ha this will require 16 plots and 320g seed. Including the seed collection and drying and the plot preparation and sowing this should cost less than £1000, maybe quite a lot less.

The contractors with experience of this work are:

**Margaret Dickson**  
78 Greenhill

Wirksworth  
Nr Matlock  
DE4 4EN  
Tel: 01629 824712

**James Frith**  
1 Ravensnest Cottages  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
Derbyshire  
Tel: 01246 591028  
Email: [ravensnest@talktalk.net](mailto:ravensnest@talktalk.net)

**Adrian Rochford Land Management**  
13 Raven Oak Close  
Belper  
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