



Eastern Canada
Native Seed Guide

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Planting Guide

Spring vs. Fall Seeding

Traditionally, seeding is thought of as a spring activity. Many restoration projects are completed in the summer and require fall seeding. There are some noteworthy advantages to fall seeding. So remember, you have the option of seeding in the Spring or in the Fall.

Fall or Dormant Seeding

Fall seeding imitates natural reseeding. Frost seeding is the broadcasting of seed on frozen ground. Good seed to soil contact occurs through natural moisture and frost action. Some natural stratification occurs, i.e., natural changes occur to the seed and the seed coat during the winter that enhances germination.

Germination will most likely not occur until Spring. Some cool season species will establish during Winter; however, warm season grass and most forbs will germinate in the Spring. Mulch is an important element of seeding to both protect the seed and soil, and help retain moisture.

Spring Seeding

Cool season species germinate soon after seeding. Germination of warm season species generally occurs within three weeks of soil temperatures reaching 15°C (59°F). Seed loss to decay and wildlife is minimized. Seed to soil contact should be accomplished by working the seed into the soil. Seeding can be delayed until weed control can be accomplished to improve establishment. Irrigation during periods of dry weather is needed for proper germination. Mulching is an important element of seeding to protect both the seed and the soil, and retain moisture.

UPLAND & MEADOW SITES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
LOW NATIVE	Low Growing Native Grass Mixture is recommended by the Canadian Audubon Society. This native grass mixture is drought tolerant and grows to a height of 45-120cm (18-48 inches) tall.	Side Oats Grama Sand Dropseed Violet Wheatgrass	Switchgrass Slender Little Bluestem Broom Sedge	Seeding Rate 20-25kg/hectare, 18-22lbs/acre when drilled onto a well-prepared site Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
TALL NATIVE	Tall Growing Native Grass Mixture is recommended by the Canadian Audubon Society. This native grass mixture is winter hardy and grows to a height of 90-210cm (36-84 inches) tall.	Big Bluestem Switchgrass Indiangrass	Canadian Wild Rye Prairie Brome	Seeding Rate 20-25kg/hectare, 18-22lbs/acre when drilled onto a well-prepared site Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
EASTERN ECOTYPE	Develops slowly, but will become a permanent cover for several decades.	Little Bluestem Virginia Wild Rye Indiangrass	Big Bluestem "Niagara" Switchgrass "Shelter" Autumn Bentgrass	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
BUTTERFLY HUMMINGBIRD	Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds the first or second year, and lasts for several years.	Little Bluestem Corn Poppy/Shirley Mix Lance Leaved Coreopsis Plains Coreopsis Cosmos Sweet William Catchfly Bigleaf Aster Indiangrass Rocket Larkspur Purple Coneflower	Black Eyed Susan Virginia Wild Rye Blanket Flower Marsh Blazing Star New England Aster Scarlet Flax Wild Bergamot Showy Goldenrod Common Milkweed Butterfly Milkweed	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
UPLAND WILDLIFE	This mix provides forage and cover for a wide range of desirable wildlife, including butterflies and pollinators.	Virginia Wild Rye Little Bluestem Switchgrass "Shelter" Indiangrass Eastern Gamma Grass Plains Coreopsis Ox Eye Sunflower	Fowl Bluegrass Big Bluestem Partridge Pea Black Eyed Susan Showy Tick Trefoil Coastal Panic Grass, "Atlantic"	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²



WET MEADOW & WETLAND SITES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
WET NATIVE	Wet native grass mixture is recommended by the Canadian Audubon Society. This native grass mixture prefers damp soils that do not dry out completely. Grows to a height of 3' to 5' producing an attractive ground cover at maturity.	Switchgrass Riverbank Wild Rye Prairie Cordgrass	Canada Bluejoint Fowl Mannagrass	Seeding Rate 20-25kg/hectare, 18-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
WATERFOWL WETLAND	A variety of species that is ideal feed for wetland birds. Produces seed for waterfowl feeding in preparation for seasonal migration as well as being an all season food. Adapted to areas subject to flooding; ponds or stream edges.	Fox Sedge Giant Bur Reed Nodding Sedge Lurid Sedge Blunt Broom Sedge Cosmos Sedge	Hop Sedge Fringed Sedge Soft Rush Hard Stemmed Bulrush Awl Sedge	Seeding Rate 30kg/hectare, 26lbs/acre Spot Application 0.75kg/100m ² , 1.65lbs/1000ft ²
MARSH WETLAND	Grass-like species mix for damp soils. For soils that range from saturated to standing water. Also offers some wildlife food value.	Little Bluestem Virginia Wild Rye Indiangrass	Big Bluestem "Niagara" Switchgrass "Shelter" Autumn Bentgrass	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
FOOD SHELTER	The forbs and shrubs in this mix add diversity to wetland restoration sites.	Fox Sedge Arrow Wood Virginia Wild Rye Lurid (Shallow) Sedge Silky Dogwood Grey Dogwood Blunt Broom Sedge	Hop Sedge Hercule's Club Awl Sedge Buttonrush Cosmos Sedge Meadow Sweet	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
WETLAND MEADOW	Suggested for transitional seeding between upland and mitigation wetland areas; provides nectar for pollinators.	Square Stemmed Monkey Flower Virginia Wild Rye Blunt Broom Sedge Lurid (Shallow) Sedge Common Sneezeweed Purple Stemmed Aster Flat Topped White Aster American Mannagrass Nodding Bur Marigold Cosmos/Bristly Sedge Hop Sedge Boneset Many Leaved Bulrush Grass Leaved Goldenrod	Fox Sedge Swamp Milkweed Zigzag Aster Soft Rush Blue Vervain Awl Sedge Joe Pye Weed Rough Avens Rattlesnake Grass Path Rush Seedbox Sensitive Fern Giant Ironweed Golden Alexanders Ox Eye Sunflower	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
PERENNIAL FOOD	Adapts to varying moisture levels during the seasons. Some areas may be dry for 1-3 months each year.	Fox Sedge Virginia Wild Rye Giant Bur Reed Fringed (Nodding) Sedge Nodding Sedge Lurid (Shallow) Sedge Soft Rush Rice Cutgrass	Wool Grass Eastern Bur Reed Blunt Broom Sedge American Mannagrass Blue Vervain Cosmos (Bristly) Sedge Hop Sedge Rattlesnake Grass	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²

RIPARIAN SITES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
RIPARIAN	A mix designed to serve as a buffer to protect the quality of stream water from run off of fertilizers. Reduces erosion, provides colour and visual texture with a mix of varied grasses. Establishes in 1-2 years, and develops into a bio-diverse cover that can replicate our native vegetation.	Bottlebrush Grass Virginia Wild Rye Big Bluestem Indiangrass Grass Leaved Goldenrod	Autumn Bentgrass Joe Pye Weed Boneset Switchgrass	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
FLOOD PLAIN	This mix will provide aesthetic beauty to the flood plain, as well as nectar for pollinators.	Fox Sedge Virginia Wild Rye Big Bluestem, 'Niagara' Indiangrass Blunt Broom Sedge Switchgrass 'Shelter' Blue Vervain Fringed Nodding Sedge Common Sneezeweed Grass Leaved Goldenrod	Awl Sedge Showy Tick Trefoil Joe Pye Weed Boneset Ox Eye Sunflower Swamp Milkweed Purple Stemmed Aster Seedbox Wild Bergamot	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
SEASONALLY FLOODED	Provides food for wildlife in sandy sites where fluctuating water table is likely to have an impact.	Fox Sedge Deer Tongue, 'Tioga' Virginia Wild Rye Japanese Millet Riverbank Wild Rye Wild Brome Grass	Switchgrass, 'Shelter' Autumn Bentgrass Showy Tick Trefoil Ox Eye Sunflower Green Bulrush	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
RIPARIAN BUFFER	Establishes in 2-3 years, and develops into a biodiverse cover that can replicate our native vegetation.	Fox Sedge Deer Tongue, 'Tioga' Little Bluestem Partridge Pea Riverbank Wild Rye Virginia Wild Rye Blue Vervain Big Bluestem, 'Niagara' Ox Eye Sunflower Arrow Wood Silky Dogwood Switchgrass, 'Shelter' Tall White Beard Tongue Grass Leaved Goldenrod	Showy Tick Trefoil Joe Pye Weed Spotted Joe Pye Weed Boneset Soft Rush Wild Bergamot Tall White Beard Tongue Staghorn Sumac Black Eyed Susan Blue False Indigo Common Milkweed Indiangrass Ironweed	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²



STORM WATER MANAGEMENT FACILITY SITES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
DETENTION FORB	A naturally diverse mix used in areas where water quality is important. Designed to hold water, provide colour and provide wildlife foods such as seeds and nectar. This mix should only be mowed in the dormant season.	Fowl Bluegrass Fox Sedge Path Rush Soft Rush Blue Vervain Woolgrass Swamp Milkweed Soft Rush Ticklegrass	Square Stemmed Monkey Flower Common Sneezeweed Virginia Wild Rye America Mannagrass Blunt Broom Sedge Green Bulrush Autumn Bentgrass Nodding Bur Marigold Purple Stemmed Aster	Seeding Rate 30kg/hectare, 26lbs/acre Spot Application 0.75kg/100m ² , 1.65lbs/1000ft ²
DETENTION BASIN	A mix designed with some salt tolerance for roadside use. Ideal for detention basins near parking lots or highways where run off water contains salt. Used in residential or commercial locations where mowing is necessary.	Red Top Alkali Grass Fox Sedge Ticklegrass	Fowl Bluegrass Virginia Wild Rye Autumn Bentgrass Creeping Bentgrass	Seeding Rate 30kg/hectare, 26lbs/acre Spot Application 0.75kg/100m ² , 1.65lbs/1000ft ²
RETENTION BASIN FLOOR	Used in residential or commercial locations where mowing is necessary.	Redtop Virginia Wild Rye Alkali Grass Fox Sedge	Creeping Bentgrass Fowl Bluegrass Autumn Bentgrass Ticklegrass/Rough Bentgrass	Seeding Rate 22-45kg/hectare, 20-40lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
RETENTION BASIN WILDLIFE	Used where water quality and wildlife is important. This mix should only be mowed in the dormant season.	Virginia Wild Rye Fowl Bluegrass Fox Sedge Wool Grass Soft Rush Path Rush Blue Vervain	Autumn Bentgrass Ticklegrass/Rough Bentgrass Blunt Broom Sedge Purple Stemmed Aster Nodding Bur Marigold Square Stemmed Monkey Flower	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²
DETENTION AREA	A low-cost native solution for detention basins.	Path Rush Sedge Virginia Wild Rye	Deer Tongue, 'Tioga' Autumn Bentgrass Ticklegrass/Rough Bentgrass	Seeding Rate 22-45kg/hectare, 20-40lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
RAIN GARDEN	Used where water quality, wildflower beauty, and wildlife are important. This mix should only be mowed during the dormant season.	Little Bluestem Virginia Wild Rye Fox Sedge River Oats Purple Coneflower Black Eyed Susan Wild Bergamot Big Bluestem Rough Avens Wild Senna	Marsh (Dense) Blazing Star Tall White Beard Tongue Redtop Panic Grass Swamp Milkweed New England Aster Blue False Indigo Ohio Spiderwort Blue Vervain Golden Alexanders Autumn Bentgrass	Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²

DISTURBED SITES & STEEP SLOPES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
STEEP SLOPE	A combination of cool and warm season grasses with both shallow and deep root species that save slopes from erosion. Also provides color and visual texture. Adapted to poor soil typically found on steep slopes.	Indiangrass Annual Ryegrass Little Bluestem Canada Wild Rye Virginia Wild Rye	Switchgrass Autumn Bentgrass Ticklegrass Partridge Peas Black Eyed Susan	Seeding Rate 34kg/hectare, 30lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
CROWN VETCH NATURALIZED	Ideal for well-drained, steep slopes with rock outcroppings and a 6.0-7.0 pH	Crownvetch, 'Penngift' Annual Ryegrass Alsike Clover		Seeding Rate 56kg/hectare, 50lbs/acre Spot Application 1.25kg/100m ² , 2.75lbs/1000ft ²
STRIP MINE	Grows in soil with 5.0-7.0 pH.	Tall fescue, 'Fawn' Annual Ryegrass Timothy	Bird's Foot Trefoil, 'Leo' Alsike Clover Redtop	Seeding Rate 56kg/hectare, 50lbs/acre Spot Application 1.25kg/100m ² , 2.75lbs/1000ft ²
PIPELINE SWITCHGRASS	Provides food and cover for wildlife.	Switchgrass Creeping Red Fescue Annual Ryegrass	Timothy Alsike Clover Redtop	Seeding Rate 45kg/hectare, 40lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
BIOMASS MINESITE	Provides food and cover for wildlife; straw could be used for biomass energy.	Coastal Panic Grass, 'Atlantic' Switchgrass, 'Cave-In-Rock' Virginia Wild Rye Big Bluestem Showy Tick Trefoil		Seeding Rate 17-25kg/hectare, 15-22lbs/acre Spot Application 0.50kg/100m ² , 1.10lbs/1000ft ²



WOODLAND OPENINGS, PARTIALLY SHADED & SHRUBBERY SITES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT	Provides food and shelter for wildlife in the first year. The native grasses and flowers provide food and cover for several subsequent years.	Dwarf Sorghum/Red Milo Austrian Winter Pea Common Sunflower Switchgrass, 'Shelter'	Big Bluestem Indiangrass Showy Tick Trefoil Partridge Pea	Seeding Rate 26kg/hectare, 23lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
KEYSTONE BIG BUCK	Provides high protein and energy for deer and other wildlife.	White Clover, 'Ladino' White Clover, New Zealand Forage Rape, 'Bonar'	Able Alfalfa Small Burnet	Seeding Rate 45kg/hectare, 40lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
KEYSTONE DEER & TURKEY	A long-lasting seed mix that provides erosion control and good nutrition for wildlife.	White Clover, 'Ladino' White Clover, New Zealand Tetraploid Perennial Ryegrass	Orchard Grass Able Alfalfa	Seeding Rate 34kg/hectare, 30lbs/acre Spot Application 0.75kg/100m ² , 1.65lbs/1000ft ²

WILDFLOWER SITES

MIXTURE	DESCRIPTION	COMPRISED OF		SEEDING
ANNUAL WILDFLOWERS	An annual mix with a variety of colours and textures.	Annual Baby's Breath Candytuft Baby Blue Eyes Rocket Larkspur Purple Coneflower Lance Leaf Coreopsis Sweet William, Pinks Corn Poppy	Dames Rocket Blue Columbine Clarkia Spurred Snapdragon Johnny Jumpup Forget-Me-Not Monkeyflower	Seeding Rate 28kg/hectare, 25lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
WILDFLOWER SUN	Colourful and natural settings are beautiful to look at and easy to maintain with Nature Pro Wildflower mix. Some species bloom soon after seeding while others require more time to become established.	Annual Baby's Breath Siberian Wallflower Lance Leaf Coreopsis Perennial Gaillardia Blue Cornflower California Poppy Perennial Sweet Pea Corn Poppy Plains Coreopsis Prairie Coneflower White Yarrow	Baby Blue Eyes Rocket Larkspur Perennial Lupine Blue Flax Calendula Gayfeather Purple Prairie Clover Spurred Snapdragon Iceland Poppy Black Eyed Susan	Seeding Rate 28kg/hectare, 25lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²
WILDFLOWER SHADE	Requires filtered sunlight or 1–4 hours of direct sun per day. This mixture will not prosper in dense shade.	Annual Baby's Breath Candytuft Baby Blue Eyes Rocket Larkspur Purple Coneflower Lance Leaf Coreopsis Sweet William, Pinks Corn Poppy	Dames Rocket Blue Columbine Clarkia Spurred Snapdragon Johnny Jumpup Forget-Me-Not Monkeyflower	Seeding Rate 28kg/hectare, 25lbs/acre Spot Application 1kg/100m ² , 2.25lbs/1000ft ²



Notes

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