## What to do –

- Choose a sunny, well-drained area of garden.
- Dig and turn the soil.
- Rake the surface to remove any stones and debris.
- Remove all weeds and hoe the soil to a fine tilth.
- Wildflowers prefer a poor soil with low nutrients so do not apply fertiliser.
- The best time to sow is from mid-September to the end of October.
- Calculate the amount of seed you need:
  - Multiply the length by the width of garden you want to plant to get the square meterage. Then multiply the sowing rate of **2gms per m<sup>2</sup>**.
  - This pack contains 12gms of seeds that's equivalent to 6m<sup>2</sup> of garden.
- Mix the seeds well and scatter them on the ground.
- Seeds should not be buried too deep.
- Lightly rake and tread the soil down.
- Water the ground.

You may also need to water particularly in dry periods.

- Germination of the wildflowers will vary depending upon species.
  Some may take only a few weeks, while others can take several months.
- By spring, the following year, the plants should be growing strongly.
- At the end of each season the flowers need to be cut.
  Once the flowers have begun to die back this should be undertaken with garden shears
- Leave the cuttings on the ground for a few days to give them time to dry and drop their seeds then rake off the cuttings.
- If coverage is patchy you may wish to over sow in the autumn.
- Cornfield annuals flower the same year if sown during the previous autumn.
- Perennial wildflowers will establish during the first year of sowing and flower the following year.
- Overtime you will create a permanent array of beautiful wildflowers that will attract a wide range of insects – including important pollinators like butterflies and bees.

Sources: www.idealseed.co.uk

Ashton.J and Ashton.J (2020) Wild your garden Dorling Kindersley Ltd

## www.alt-terre.blog