



HIGH QUALITY HABITAT ESTABLISHMENT

Grass Field Conversions

- STEP 1: PLANNING AND SITE PREPARATION
- STEP 2: SEEDING TIMING AND METHODS
- STEP 3: MANAGEMENT

Step 1: Planning and Site Preparation

What is currently growing on the site?

- Most grass and garden conversion projects will need 1 - 3 applications of glyphosate (Roundup) if grasses / weeds currently exist on the project area
 - Use 5% glyphosate mix (2 quarts gly per 10 gallons water per acre)
 - Spray in spring, summer, or fall when grass is green and actively growing
 - Spray, spray, and spray again until grasses and weeds are completely eradicated
- Keep in mind, pollinator seed mixes should be planted in areas with good sunlight

Site preparation for seeding:

- Once project area is sprayed, the dead grass residue (excess litter) must be removed
 - Must have 50% bare ground
 - Residue can be removed by burning or raking
 - If burning or raking isn't an option, ground can be lightly worked
 - Lightly work top 1" of soil
 - Working ground will cause grass and weed flush – after working ground wait 2-3 weeks then spray again

Step 2: Seeding Timing and Methods

Best timing and method for planting pollinator patch?

- November – Late February (Preferred Method)
- March – June 5th
- Conduct seeding by broadcasting or drilling
 - Mix seed with 10 lbs/acre of cracked corn, oats, rice hulls, potash, wood shavings, kitty litter, sand (any type of cheap filler)
 - Broadcast or drill seed on bare ground for seed-to-soil contact
 - Best times for broadcasting
 - Frozen morning with surface thaw in afternoon
 - Frozen morning prior to light rain or snow
 - Fluffy snow that will melt within 24 – 48 hours
- March – late May (conduct same steps as winter broadcast or drill seeding)

Step 3: Management

Year 1

- Don't expect your pollinator seeding to look great in Year 1. During this time, native wildflowers put most of their energy into root development and will most likely not grow more than a few inches. Some seed sits in the ground for a year before germinating
- Pollinator seed won't germinate until ground temperature is 65 – 70 degrees (mid-June)

Year 2 - 3

- Pollinator establishment should be coming along
- Once pollinator stand is well-established, start management
- Prescribed burning is the BEST management option; talk to PF biologist for advice on burning
- Burn March 15 – April 15 or September 15 – November 15

YEAR 1



YEAR 2



YEAR 3



For more information, please contact the PF/QF Seed Team at **(866) 914-7373**.
Order seed at pfhabitatstore.com.