

# TECHNICAL GUIDE TO COLOUR SPLASH



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LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES



## WHEN TO SOW COLOUR SPLASH

Sowing should primarily take place in the spring, as the soil must be warm and moist enough to promote seed germination. It is possible to sow seeds from the end of March or the beginning of April, but late spring frosts should be avoided. Sowing may be undertaken until the end of June.

## WHERE TO SOW COLOUR SPLASH

Colour Splash mixtures can be sown on a wide range of sites and soils, these include golf courses, road verges, landscape areas and domestic gardens.

## WHICH TYPE OF LAND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR COLOUR SPLASH?

Avoid using land that is completely shaded or covered by trees. Most species used in the mixtures need full sunlight, or at least half sunlight. Although the flowers used in the Colour Splash mixtures are resistant to drought, the plants will not survive in extreme dry conditions if the soil cannot retain water sufficiently. Finally, all plots which are susceptible to being overtaken by weeds should be avoided, such as landfills, farmland with a history of weeds and old vacant land.

## HOW TO PREPARE SOIL FOR COLOUR SPLASH

Soil preparation is a critical step. Under no circumstances should the seed be sown on an area that is already covered (i.e. lawns etc.). The seed needs to be in contact with the soil and lightly covered in order to germinate. In most cases, it is necessary to work the soil and prepare a seedbed before sowing the seeds.

## HOW TO SOW COLOUR SPLASH SEEDS

Keep seeds in their original packaging at normal temperatures (5°C to 20°C) until you are ready to plant. The packaging is specifically designed to keep the seeds well preserved. Before

sowing, shake the can or bag in order to mix the seeds well. During the entire sowing period, whether it is done manually or with a machine, continue to mix the seeds in order to have an even distribution of plants. The sowing method depends on the area to be planted.

For small areas (a few hundred m<sup>2</sup>), hand sowing is the best option. Mix the seeds with sand or similar material at a ratio of 3 parts inert material to 1 part flower seeds. Sowing with a hand seed drill is also possible.

For larger surfaces (several thousand m<sup>2</sup> or more), it may be wise to use mechanised sowing. Using a micro-granule or fertiliser applicator is possible. Ensure that the seeds are lightly covered - a suitable roller can be used to provide adequate contact with the soil.

Sowing with a seed drill has many advantages; the seeds are buried and packed down into the soil, which promotes germination. Seed drills used typically for grass can be useful as some flower seeds are small and need to be buried in very shallow seed beds (0.5cm).

## WHAT IS THE SOWING RATE FOR COLOUR SPLASH?

2g/m<sup>2</sup> gives excellent results.

## HOW TO MAINTAIN COLOUR SPLASH

Colour Splash mixtures require very little maintenance. These flowers do not need to be watered, fertilised or treated with pesticides. On the contrary, the objective is to let them grow freely; the flowers and their small associated ecosystems will establish themselves.