





The Colour Boost range from DLF has been designed for maximum floral impact, incorporating both wild flower and garden flowering species. Colour Boost mixtures establish rapidly to deliver a dazzling floral display throughout the year whilst providing welcome food and shelter for wildlife.

Add colour, biodiversity and interest to your space with Colour Boost.

#### **Colour Boost from DLF**

In order to meet with the increasing demand for conservation mixtures, DLF has utilised in-house research and production facilities to formulate a number of high-quality, maximum-impact mixtures designed for amenity spaces. Within the Colour Boost range is a mixture to suit most situations not only improving visual merit, but restoring critical habitats for insect, small mammal and bird populations.

Only the best quality varieties are selected to deliver consistent results, strong visual impact and bring benefit to the immediate environment. Our experienced team is on hand to provide advice on mixture selection and the ongoing maintenance of your space.

#### Why choose Colour Boost mixtures?

Flowering species have long played a key role in landscaping and development projects, bringing biodiversity to urban environments, as well as domestic or public green spaces. The inclusion of Colour Boost is a great step in improving levels of engagement and interaction with the environment.



# Amenity Flower Mixtures

Colour Boost will satisfy the desire to bring aesthetic appeal to public spaces, while providing valuable habitat and a source of food to a rich variety of wildlife. For butterflies, bees and other pollinators they provide a valuable source of pollen and nectar at a time when many areas of their natural environment are under threat.

- Easy to grow, with relatively low levels of input required throughout the season
- Cost-effective way of improving the aesthetic appeal of a space
- Robust, fast-flowering mixtures with long-lasting results
- Improve engagement and interaction with the environment

Contents

- Reduce water and chemical consumption
- Improve biodiversity and create habitats for wildlife

#### How to optimise results from the **Colour Boost range**

Sowing of Colour Boost should ideally take place in the spring, when the soil is warm and moist enough to encourage germination. Late March or early April are optimal, however late spring frosts should be avoided. Sowing can then take place right through until the end of June.

Mixtures are tolerant of a wide variety of soil types, making them suited to a range of sites including golf courses, parks & public spaces, grounds, gardens and highways.

Try to avoid shaded areas – most species within the Colour Boost mixtures prefer full, or at least half, sun. They will also prefer soils that can retain some moisture. Land should also be avoided that is susceptible to weed ingress such as landfills or old vacant areas.

For further information on how to sow and maintain Colour Boost, see page 14.

# **Colour Boost Testimonial** Carnival

Colour Boost at Wildheart Animal Sanctuary

A stunning celebration of bright and bold annuals

**Floral Carpet** Lower growing annuals to recreate a summer meadow

Light the sky with high impact taller growing species **Skyscraper** 

Deliver colour & life with this important mix for wildlife **Biodiversity** 

**Honey Bee & Butterfly** A mix of flowering species popular with pollinators

Blush Annuals to appeal to the heart, in tones of roses & red 10

Classical A regal mix of beautiful blues and wonderful whites 11

Chameleon Ever-changing mix for bold colour throughout the season 12

100% Poppy - The epitome of remembrance & reflection 13 **Poppy** 

**Colour Boost** Technical Guide 14

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# DLF Colour Boost brings conservation closer to home for Wildheart Animal Sanctuary

Providing a new home, rest and rehabilitation for rescued animals from across the globe, the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary (formally the Isle of Wight Zoo) have been working on a project to support species much closer to home. With flower mixtures and support from DLF Seeds, the work at the sanctuary and at local schools has been hailed a great success - with Chief Operating Officer, Lawrence Bates noting both the improvements in bio-diversity and awareness of the issues affecting our native habitats.



Lawrence began planning the habitat creation with the help of DLF's Paul Hadley in a previous role a few years ago and saw the opportunity to resurrect it upon joining the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary in July 2019. "It can be difficult for people to understand how important our behaviour and efforts are for supporting our own native species that are under threat, when a lot of the media focus is on animals on the other side of the globe. Our vision with this project is to look at spaces closer to home, increase the bio-diversity to provide habitats, shelter and food for invertebrates which, in turn, helps animals further up the food chain."

"Paul visited the island and advised on the most suitable species for our new flower meadow on site, but also what would work for projects at some local schools, which weren't going to be maintained by experts!" Selected were *Carnival*, a mixture containing quick-to-establish, high impact annuals and *Chameleon*, comprising of over 40 different species and subspecies, the appearance of which is constantly changing throughout the growing season.

Four flower meadows were sown at the schools on the island prior to the lockdown in March 2020, with the Sanctuary's own meadow then planted in June 2020. "The result from these two Colour Boost mixtures was phenomenal! Not only did the students benefit from the educational programme around wild flowers and conservation, but it completely transformed previously neglected areas of the school sites, and our own site, with hardy blooms that created a dazzling, long-lasting display of colour."

"We received so many lovely comments from Head Teachers with numerous other schools now wanting to get involved. We're also talking to local churches and a number of businesses through the Green Impact Group about new sponsored plots of land." Lawrence concludes, "The programme is growing fast and the impact this will have on the wildlife is exponential! Without DLF and their ongoing support, the project wouldn't have got off the ground."







### **Carnival**

💰 Bumblebee Conservation





#### **COMMON NAME**

Paper Daisy Pheasant's Eye Pot Marigold Cornflower Cosmos **Painted Daisy Dwarf Morning Glory** Chinese Forget-me-not **California Poppy** Fineflower **Farewell To Spring** Baby's Breath Candytuft Love-in-a-Mist Corn Poppy

#### **COLOURS**

White/Pink/Purple Red/Orange Red/Orange/Yellow Blue/Pink/White Pink/Purple Red/Orange/Pink/Yellow Blue/Purple/Pink/White Blue Multi-colour mix Blue/Pink Pink/Red/White Red/White White/Blue/Pink/Purple

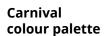
Blue/Pink/Purple/White

Red



Designed to create a robust and attractive display in any park, public open space or golf course. This flower mixture will provide a dazzling annual display. Quick to establish with a long flowering period from eight weeks after sowing up until the first frosts.





**Sowing Rate** 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



### **Floral Carpet**

Lower growing annuals to recreate a summer meadow



**Floral Carpet** 

Lower growing seasonal annuals mixture, designed to create a robust and attractive display in areas where final growing height is of paramount importance. This is particularly relevant when sowing near visibility splays and sight lines on road junctions. This lower growing mixture will provide rich blooms throughout the season, perfect for enhancing any street scene. Quick to establish with a long flowering period from eight weeks after sowing up until the first frosts.

Flowering Period			_	•	,	Aug	ЗСР	OCL	Nov	Dec
Flowering Feriou					Flo	owerin	g Peri	od		

Floral Carpet pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag

Floral Carpet colour palette

Sowing Rate 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



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### Skyscraper

Light the sky with high impact taller growing species







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**Skyscraper** 

A taller growing mixture containing classics such as Cosmos and Zinnia. Created for areas where a larger or more open surrounding environment requires a taller growing mixture to deliver the same impact. The taller more robust nature of this mixture also provides

fantastic shelter and a habitat for small mammals, invertebrates and pollinating insects.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
						Fl	owerin	g Peri	iod		

Skyscraper pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag

Skyscraper colour palette

Sowing Rate 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



## **Biodiversity**

Deliver colour and life with this important mix for wildlife





COMMON NAME	COLOURS
Perennials:	
Alpine Forget-me-not	Blue/Pink
Yarrow	White
Musk Mallow	Pink
Sweet William	White/Pink/Purple
Purple Coneflower	Purple
Meadowsweet	White
Shasta Daisy	White/Yellow
Soapwort	Pink
Annuals:	
Pot Marigold	Yellow/Orange
Corn Cockle	Mauve
Common Bugloss	Blue
Biennials:	
Wallflower	Orange/Yellow
Vipers Bugloss	Blue
Foxglove	Purple
Black Medick	Yellow
Canterbury Bells	Blue



A blend of seasonal Annuals, Biennials and Perennials designed to attract a host of varied fauna including pollinating insects. The composition of species is wide and ensures a good adaptability to different growing conditions and good colour during the first year. The colour scheme of the mix changes during the season depending on which species are in bloom at the time.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					Flo	werir	ng Peri	od			

Biodiversity pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag

**Biodiversity** colour palette

Sowing Rate 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



## **Honey Bee & Butterfly**

A mix of flowering species popular with pollinators





**COLOURS** Blue White/Blue/Pink/Red Pink/Purple/Orange Multi-colour mix Yellow Pink/Red/White Yellow/Red Red/Yellow/Pink White/Yellow Yellow/Red **Purple** White/Pink/Purple

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Designed specifically with key pollinators in mind, a really attractive mixture doing a vital job in providing a nectar source for our bee population and other pollinating insects. This mixture will provide a spectacular display in year one, with species such as Foxglove and Sweet William flowering in year two if the mixture is left.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
						Flow	ering P	eriod			

**Honey Bee & Butterfly** colour palette

**Sowing Rate** 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



### **Blush**

Annuals to appeal to the heart, in tones of roses & red





#### **COMMON NAME COLOURS** Summer Pheasant's Eye Dark Red Corn Cockle Purple Love-lies-bleeding Red Pink/Purple China Aster Cornflower Blue Pink **Spider Flower Garden Cosmos** Pink **Forking Larkspur** Dark Blue/Purple **California Poppy** Red/Orange/Yellow Strawberry Fields Globe Red Showy Baby's Breath White/Pink Pink **Pink Sunray Rose Mallow** Pink **Red Flax** Red **Night Scented Stock** Lilac Marvel of Puru Yellow/Pink/White **Corn Poppy** Red Wild Clary Purple Cowherb Pink Pink/Purple/Yellow/Orange Youth-and-Age



Pale pinks through to deep reds, Blush provides a beautifully warm mix of flowers from this colour palette. Designed for great succession flowering from late spring until well into the autumn.



Blush pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag

Blush colour palette

Sowing Rate 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



### **Classical**

A regal mix of beautiful blues and







**Common Bugloss** 

Cornflower

Larkspur

Dragonhead

**Purple Bugloss** 

Flax

Love-in-a-mist

**Blue Tansy** 

**Annual Sage** 

**Common Vetch** 

**Sweet Alyssum** 

Queen Anne's Lace

Cornflower

**Creeping Daisy** 

**Garden Cosmos** 

**California Poppy** 

Candytuft

Love-in-a-mist

Soapwort

**Common Zinnia** 

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Blue

White

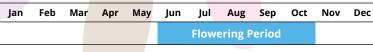


Deep blues through to pure whites gives this trusted colour combination an everlasting appeal. This mixture works especially well in a more formal setting, or providing the transition between a formal and informal landscape.



Classical colour palette

**Sowing Rate** 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



Classical pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag



### Chameleon

Ever-changing mix for bold colour throughout the season





Purple/Pink Sweet Alvssum Love-lies-bleeding Red Bishop's Weed White Dill Snapdragon Borage Pot Marigold

China Aster Safflower Cornflower Mediterranean Stock Painted Daisy (Tricolour)

**Elegant Clarkia Purple Chinese Houses Dwarf Morning Glory** 

**Garden Cosmos** Chinese Hound's Tongue

Garden Dahlia Doubtful Knight's Spur **Sweet William** Purple Viper's Bugloss

Foothill Poppy Farewell to Spring **Showy Baby's Breath** 

**Common Sunflower** Strawflower Candytuft **Balsam** 

**Rose Mallow** Moroccan Toadflax Lupin

**Mallow Wort** Mayweed **Hoary Stock** 

Bells of Ireland Love-in-a-Mist Yellow Fennel Flower

Cowherb **Sweet Scabious Starflower Pincushions** Monarch of the Veld

Youth-and-Age

#### **COLOURS**

Blue

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Yellow Yellow/Pink/White Orange Pink/Purple Yellow/Orange

Pink/Yellow/White Pink/Purple **Purple** Blue/White/Yellow

Pink/Lilac

Pink Pink/Purple Blue/Pink/White Red/White

Purple Yellow Pink/White Pink

Yellow Yellow/Pink/White White

Pink/Lilac Pink Purple Pink/Purple/White/Blue

Pink/White White/Yellow Pink/White/Lilac

Green Blue/Pink/White/Purple Yellow

Yellow/Brown Pink Pink/Lilac/Purple White Orange/White

Pink/Purple/Yellow/Orange

### Chameleon

A brilliantly diverse mixture of over 40 species and subspecies providing a fantastic range of colours and forms. This mixture is constantly changing throughout the growing season. Summer Chameleon has been a consistent performer on our trial grounds giving a fantastic show throughout the season.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
						Flo	owerir	ng Per	iod		

Chameleon pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag

Chameleon colour palette

**Sowing Rate** 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>



# **Poppy**

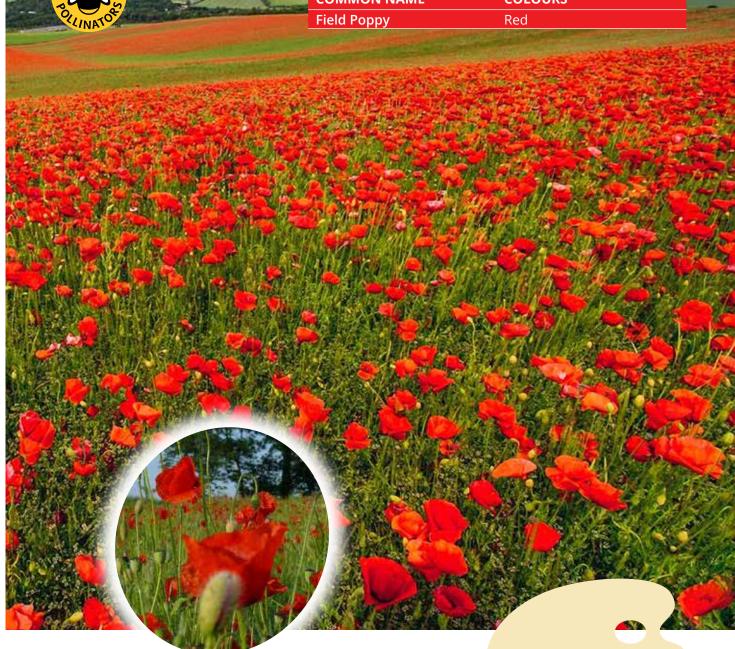
100% Poppy - The epitome of remembrance and reflection



COMMON NAME

**COLOURS** 

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### Poppy

Creating an evocative image in drifts of bright red. Whether it's just for show or creating a display to remember those heroes no longer with us, the simple poppy makes a great choice. Poppy can also be successfully sown in the autumn.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					Flow Per	ering riod					

Poppy pack sizes: 1kg / 10kg bag

Poppy colour palette

Sowing Rate 1g/m<sup>2</sup>



### **Colour Boost Technical Guide**



#### Where to sow Colour Boost

Colour Boost is well suited to a range of soil types and environments including golf courses, highway areas, public green spaces and gardens.

Land that is completely shaded or enclosed by trees should be avoided. Most species included in the Colour Boost mixtures require full, or at least half, sunlight to flourish. In addition, while the species selected demonstrate resistance to drought, some moisture will need to be present for them to thrive.

Spaces that are susceptible to weed ingress, such as landfills or old vacant sites, should also be avoided.

#### When to sow Colour Boost

The ideal time to sow Colour Boost is when the soil is warm and moist enough to promote germination – this would traditionally be in the spring. Sowing of Colour Boost is possible from the end of March or beginning of April, when the period of late spring frosts is over. Sowing can then take place until approximately the end of June depending on conditions.

#### How to prepare the ground for sowing

Preparing the ground is a crucial step to ensure the best results from your Colour Boost mix. Under no circumstances should seed be sown onto an area that is currently covered, such as into an existing lawn etc.

To achieve optimal germination, the soil may need to be worked, prepared and/or treated before the seed is sown. When sowing Colour Boost, the seed should be in adequate soil contact and lightly covered.

#### **How to sow Colour Boost**

Keep the seed in its original packaging at normal temperatures (5°C to 20°C) until the day you intend to sow. Shake the can or bag in order to adequately mix the seeds before sowing. Whether you are undertaking the sowing operation by hand or by machine, ensure you continue to mix the seed throughout in order to achieve an even distribution of plants. The ideal sowing method will be determined by the area being planted.

For Colour Boost mixtures, the ideal sowing rate is between 3-5g/m<sup>2</sup>.



For areas under a few hundred m<sup>2</sup> hand sowing is likely to deliver the best results. For larger areas, mechanised sowing will be better suited.

Mix the Colour Boost seeds with **Rehofix Bulking Granules** at a ratio of 4 parts Rehofix to 1 part seed.



The use of a micro-granule or fertiliser applicator is recommended where possible. Ensure that the seeds are lightly covered and use a suitable roller to help achieve that desired seed contact with the soil.

Utilising a seed drill is also advised. Seed drills are typically used to sow grass or other small seeds in shallow seed beds (0.5cm). A seed drill will ensure that the Colour Boost seeds are adequately buried in the ground to help promote germination.

#### Colour Boost Maintenance

Colour Boost mixtures require little maintenance - they do not need watering, feeding or treating with pesticides. The small ecosystem they create when established will sustain Colour Boost species and allow them to thrive freely. For mixtures containing Biennials and Perennials such as Biodiversity and Honeybee and Butterfly that are to be kept for more than one year, cut back and collect all the top growth before the next spring. Hand weed or spot treat any undesirable species.

