

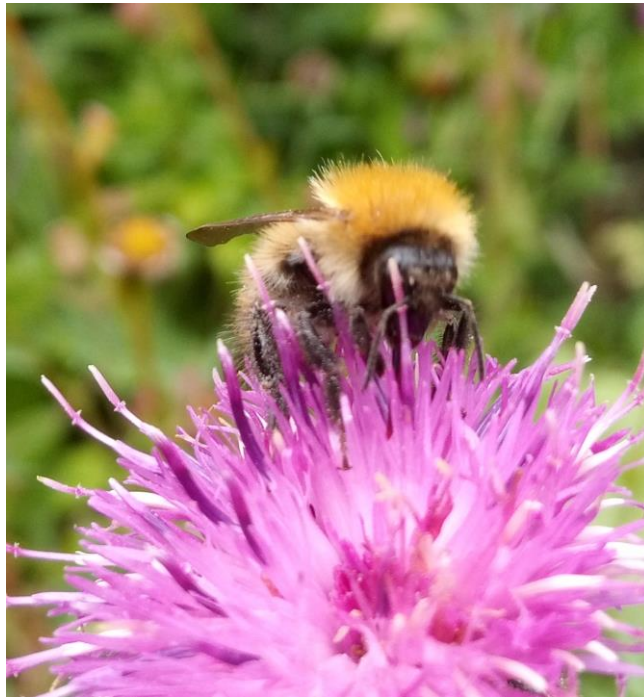
# jemima's garden

A little late, but at last, here is our Lammas Newsletter 😊

Firstly, welcome to all our new subscribers.

I hope the weather hasn't been too difficult for growing and you've seen plenty of wildlife in your gardens.

It's been a little cool here in Dumfries and Galloway but the plants seem very happy. We're now in our third summer here and we've seen an amazing increase in the number of insects, especially in the variety of Bee and Hoverfly species.



We've a new product we're very excited about:

*Flower Meadow Mixes*



These are perfect for creating small flower meadows or even just sprinkling in your flower beds.

Packed full of beautiful flowering plants, they're all created with wildlife in mind and will attract Butterflies, Bees, other insects and even birds and small mammals.

They all contain flower seeds only, (no grass), so can also be used to overseed existing lawns or meadows.

We have three different types:

The first two mixes contain mainly perennial and biennial plants, which will flower from the second year, plus a handful of annual species for first year colour.

*Native Wildflower Meadow Mix - A mix of 23 species of native wildflowers*

*Bee & Butterfly Meadow Mix - 25 species of native wildflowers plus Borage*

The third mix is our own exclusive mix of 10 varieties of Cottage Garden Favourites and Native Wildflowers, all annuals, perfect for topping up your flower beds with beautiful, colourful blooms which are easy and quick to grow.

*Cottage Garden Annuals Mix*

All three are available in different sizes to suit your requirements and full details of plant species and growing instructions can be found here: <https://www.jemimasgarden.co.uk/shop/meadow-mixes>

The plant in our garden that has been the biggest insect magnet this summer is the dazzlingly bright Ragwort which has glowed for months and has been covered in Bees and Hoverflies every day. Although not without its critics this plant is very beneficial to a wide variety of insects, some of which depend upon it for their survival.

If you don't have livestock in your garden, we would encourage you to leave any Ragwort that pops up and see for yourselves the insect life it encourages.

If you're lucky you may get a visit from a Cinnabar Moth and its wonderfully stripy caterpillars.

For more information about the benefits of Ragwort please visit: <https://www.ragwortfacts.com/>



We've a couple of new seed varieties to tell you about and these both need to be sown in the autumn. Firstly, Yellow Rattle, which is a semi-parasitic plant which should be grown with grass. It is usually sown into existing meadows to curb the vigour of grasses and create conditions to allow other wildflowers to thrive or mixed in with meadow seed mixes when sowing.



The second is beautiful, lacy Wild Carrot. This will also grow happily in wildflower meadows but is perfect in flower beds too.

It is an umbellifer with pretty white flowers that often has one deep red flower in the middle. It is often called Queen Anne's Lace and the legend tells of Queen Anne pricking her finger and a drop of blood landing on the lace she was sewing.



Both these plants need subjecting to a period of cold before they will germinate so autumn is the perfect time to sow. You can sow the Yellow Rattle up until the end of December, (not a minute later ☹️), and the seedlings should appear around March time.

Did you know that there are a lot of hardy annuals that benefit from an autumn sowing, giving you earlier, stronger plants next year?

If you sow again in the spring, you'll have an extended flowering season from early summer to early autumn.

For these purposes, when we say autumn, we mean September or October depending on where you are in the UK.

The further North you are, the earlier you should sow whereas if you're further South you can risk sowing into October.

Apart from Yellow Rattle, these autumn sowing plants are Borage, Californian Poppy, Corn Chamomile, Corncockle, Cornflowers, Crimson Flowered Flax, Gypsophila, Limnanthes, Nigella, Phacelia and Pot Marigold.



It's also time to start thinking about other plants that need subjecting to cold before they germinate including Columbine, Betony, Devil's-bit Scabious, Meadowsweet, and Marsh-mallow.



To help with your autumn sowings, we're offering a 15% discount on any of the above "autumn sowing" plants until the 14th September.

If you've included any of them in an order, simply enter LAMMAS in the coupon code box in the shopping basket.

We've now got an Events page on our website where we'll list any markets or fairs where we'll have a stall, (weather permitting).

If you're local, why not pop along to one of them, we'd love to meet you 😊

If you decide you'd rather not receive any more newsletters, please let us know and we'll "un-subscribe" you.

Have a great autumn.

Jane & Robert