WET MEADOW & WETLAND SITES

FAST FACTS

Wet Meadow & Wetland Sites have soils made up of clay and high organic matter with high water tables or impervious layers that prevent drainage. These sites are wet most of the time. Wet Meadow Examples: Roadside ditches, retention basins that catch run-off water, pond areas, or wetland edges. Wetland Examples: Newly created wetlands and wetland restoration sites, retention basins with wetland functions, floodplains, pond edges, open water, or wet bioremediation sites.

SITE PREPARATION

Eradicate existing vegetation by having a licensed spray technician apply an approved herbicide, such as glyphosate (Rodeo), triclopyr (Garlon® 3A), or a similar aquatic herbicide formulation, to control such undesirable vegetation. CAUTION: Some persistent species, such as purple loosestrife, phragmites, Japanese knotweed, or reed canarygrass, may require multiple applications of glyphosate or triclopyr. Perennial weeds not addressed before establishment will be more difficult to remove later. These sites are often too wet to till. Newly constructed wetlands, retention basins, and wet construction sites should be seeded as soon after construction as possible. Leaving the surface rough by creating mounds and kettles for an undulating microtopography can be very beneficial in obligate wetlands.

HABITAT

Varies from partial shade to full sun; has wet or saturated soil, standing water, or a high water table; generally populated with wetland and wet meadow species.

FERTILITY

Due to the potential for water contamination, fertilizer is not recommended; however, when topsoil has been depleted or removed, we recommend the addition of organic matter (compost). Adjust soil pH as needed, or select species adapted to that pH.

SEEDING METHOD

Hand seed, broadcast seed, hydroseed, or drill seed when the water table is drawn down. It is not practical to seed any wetland where there is standing water or where severe flooding is likely to occur before germination. The same caution applies to mulching. Natural seed banks (seeds in wetland soils) often establish part of the vegetative cover.

Wetlands are massive nutrient filters that help clean our nation's water supply and protect rivers and oceans from pollution.

GROWING SEASON MAINTENANCE

FIRST GROWING SEASON

When feasible (the ground isn't too slippery or mucky to safely walk), post-planting maintenance will provide the best results for wet meadows and wetlands. Whenever canopy height (overall vegetation) reaches 18"-24", trim the meadow to 8" using a string trimmer. Trimming reduces competition by fast-growing weeds for sunlight and nutrients needed by slower growing perennial natives. Trimming should cease by mid-September.

Problem weeds should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with an approved aquatic herbicide, such as Rodeo® or Garlon® 3A.

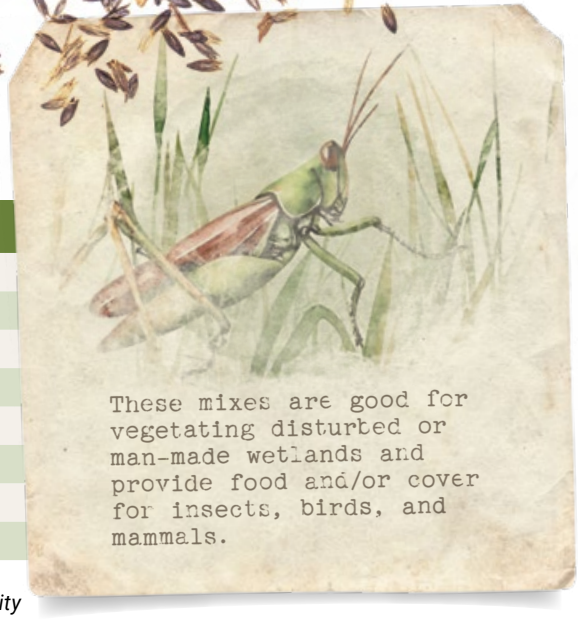
SECOND & SUBSEQUENT GROWING SEASONS

Problem weeds, such as purple loosestrife, phragmites, Japanese knotweed, and reed canarygrass, should be hand pulled or spot sprayed with an approved aquatic herbicide, such as Rodeo® or Garlon® 3A.

Pickerelweed *(Pontederia cordata)* is a native wetland plant that provides food for aquatic wildlife.

ERNMX-131 OBL Wetland Mix

WET MEADOW & WETLAND SITES SEED MIXES	
ERNMX-120	OBL-FACW Perennial Food & Cover Wetland Mix
ERNMX-122	FACW Wetland Meadow Mix
ERNMX-128	Seasonally Flooded Wildlife Food Mix
ERNMX-131	OBL Wetland Mix
ERNMX-137	Specialized Wetland Mix for Shaded OBL-FACW Areas
ERNMX-138	Wildlife Food & Shelter Mix
ERNMX-175	Waterfowl Buffet Mix for Wetland Enhancement
ERNMX-176	Passive Acid Mine OBL Wetland Mix



Mix formulations are subject to change without notice depending on the availability of existing and new products. While the formula may change, the guiding philosophy and function of the mix will not. See "Disclaimer," p. 15. For "Expectations of Native Species," see p. 12.