



HUTCHINSONS
Crop Production Specialists

Environmental Seed Brochure

2024



Environmental
Services



Selecting the correct seed is fundamental to the success of your agri-environment scheme. From Countryside Stewardship to the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI), our range of mixes have been selected to help you achieve the best results on your farm.

Each mix has been carefully chosen for ease of management and environmental output, coupled with sound agronomic backing, to help you achieve the best results with your scheme.

Please discuss with your local Hutchinsons contact and consider the many important factors before making a decision.

We have a wider range of Countryside Stewardship and Sustainable Farming Incentive compliant mixes available.

Please ask your agronomist for our full brochure 'Your Countryside'.

Did you know we have a range of catch, cover and companion seed mixes?

Visit our website for more information or ask your agronomist.

hutchinsons.co.uk



AB9/AHL2 Game (WBS4)

Sowing rate: 40kg/ha (20kg pack)

Specifically designed for use in situations that require winter cover for game and a great alternative to maize. This mix meets the scheme requirements by providing a wide range of winter feed for wild birds.

This mix should be drilled on wide rows (16-24") to allow access between the crop for game birds. The sorghum and millet in the mix will hold their structure right through to the end of the shooting season. Soil temp must be 14°C and rising before drilling this mix.

SPECIFICATION

Spring triticale	45%
Spring barley	25%
Dwarf sorghum	8.5%
White millet	7%
Linseed	5%
Japanese reed millet	4%
Red millet	3%
Gold of pleasure	2.5%

AB9/AHL2 Basic (WBS1)

Sowing rate: 40kg/ha (20kg pack)

A more generalist winter bird feed.

This low cost, robust annual mix, provides plenty of feed for farmland birds including tree sparrows and grey partridge. This will provide open cover and shed seed through the late autumn and winter period. Kale can be added to the mix to make it last for two years. Soil temp must be 14°C and rising before drilling this mix.

SPECIFICATION

Spring triticale	40%
Spring barley	28%
Spring wheat	15%
Fodder radish	10%
White millet	5%
Red millet	2%



AB9/AHL2

Northern/cold soils

(Northern WBS1)

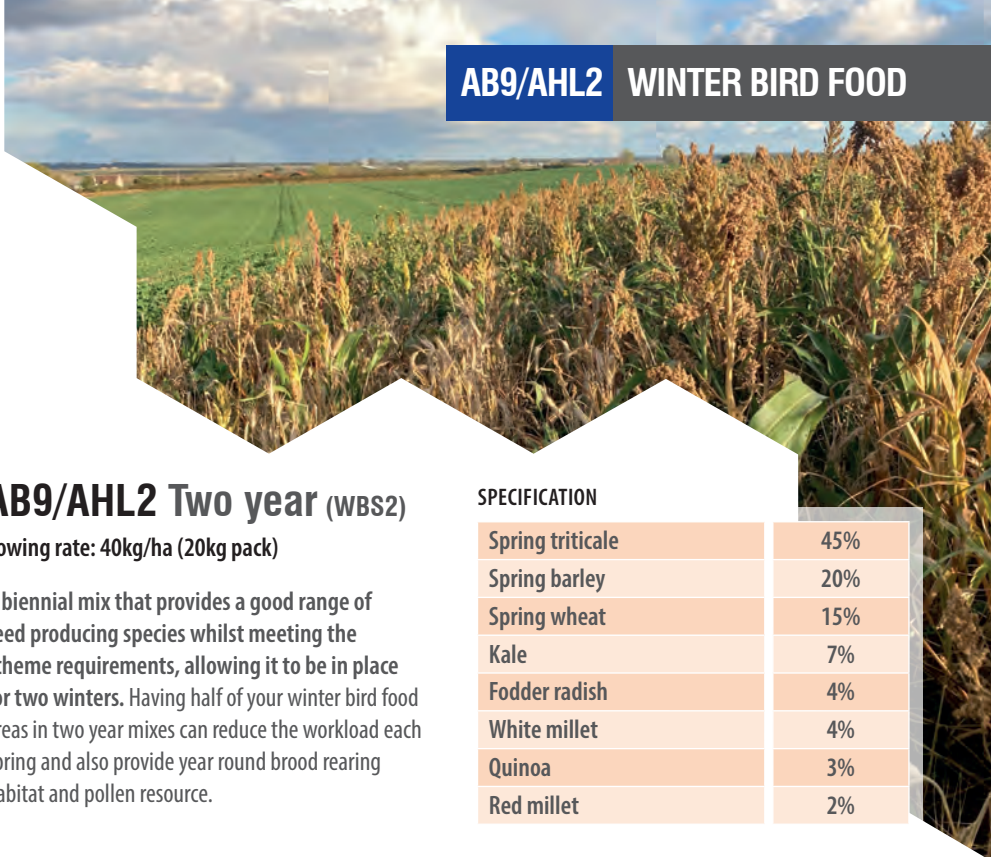
Sowing rate: 40kg/ha (20kg pack)

A mix that can be sown into colder soils, designed for those that wish to drill wild bird mixes early or in the north of the country where soils take longer to warm up.

This mix provides a wide range of seeds for a variety of farmland birds, whilst also containing phacelia which will flower for most of the summer and provide a reliable pollen resource. Can be sown from late March while the drill is still on!

SPECIFICATION

Spring triticale	60%
Spring barley	20%
Linseed	10%
Forage rape	5%
Fodder radish	3%
Phacelia	2%



AB9/AHL2 Two year (WBS2)

Sowing rate: 40kg/ha (20kg pack)

A biennial mix that provides a good range of seed producing species whilst meeting the scheme requirements, allowing it to be in place for two winters. Having half of your winter bird food areas in two year mixes can reduce the workload each spring and also provide year round brood rearing habitat and pollen resource.

SPECIFICATION

Spring triticale	45%
Spring barley	20%
Spring wheat	15%
Kale	7%
Fodder radish	4%
White millet	4%
Quinoa	3%
Red millet	2%

Consider: the kale in this mix is susceptible to flea beetle and pigeon damage.

You may need to follow this mix with an annual mix for herbicide options to control weeds.

Additions to all winter bird mixes

The straights below can be added to bird mixes at the advised rates to either enhance the mix aesthetically, provide additional pollen and nectar resource, or make a mix last for two years.

- Sunflowers 4kg/ha (10kg & 20kg pack)
- Kale 3-7.5kg/ha (5kg pack)
- Phacelia 7.5-10kg/ha (Pack size 25Kg)
- Fennel 6-8kg/ha (5kg & 25kg pack)

Weed Issues

Wild bird mixes are likely to become weedy, especially if they are sown in the same place year after year. The most effective form of weed control is to achieve a stale seed bed, this may mean drilling later and allow the weeds to flush first. If weeds are an issue post-emergence there is a range of herbicides that can be used.

Herbicide tolerant mixes will vary depending on specific weeds. Thistles, grass weeds (barnyard and foxtail millet), fat hen and redshank are the most common weeds and can be dealt with using an effective herbicide regime.

Please contact your agronomist for advice.

AB8/IPM2 Longevity mix

Sowing rate: 16-20kg/ha (10kg & 20kg pack)

Designed to provide long term perennial habitat and foraging sites for invertebrates and pollinators such as bumble bees, butterflies and hoverflies. With the correct management, this longevity mix (with a wide range of perennial plants, wild flowers and some native species), will last for the full five years of a Countryside Stewardship Scheme and into any future schemes.

Establish in warm moist soils and stale seed beds followed by regular cutting in year one to give this mix the best start, allowing you to claim the area as part of an agri-environment scheme for many years to come.

SPECIFICATION

Slender red fescue	25%
SSMG	25%
Chewings fescue	12%
Crested dogstail	10%
Hard fescue	5%
Sainfoin	3.25%
Common vetch	3%
Browntop bent	3%
Birdsfoot trefoil	2.5%
Black medick	2%
Red clover	2%
Black knapweed	2%
Oxeye daisy	1.3%
Yarrow	1.25%
Wild carrot	1%
Plantain	1%
Selfheal	0.5%
Musk mallow	0.2%





AB8/IPM2 Basic mix

Sowing rate: 16-20kg/ha (20kg pack)

With a wide range of grasses, flowers and legumes this mix meets the requirement of the option by providing an abundant source of pollen and nectar throughout the summer, whilst also keeping costs down.

With a higher proportion of legumes, less perennial wildflowers and no native species, this mix will tend to become less diverse towards the end of a five year scheme and may need to be re-established before being entered into a new agri-environmental scheme.

This mix is ideal for areas of the farm that are being established with wild flowers for a limited number of years. For areas that are being taken out of agricultural production indefinitely we suggest the longevity mix.

SPECIFICATION

Creeping red fescue	45%
SSMG	15%
Chewings fescue	15%
Hard fescue	15%
Sainfoin	2.5%
Common vetch	2.5%
Red clover	1.5%
Alsike clover	1.25%
Plantain	0.75%
Birdsfoot trefoil	0.5%
Oxeye daisy	0.25%
Yarrow	0.25%
Black knapweed	0.25%
Sheeps burnet	0.25%



NUM3 One year legume fallow

Sowing rate: 15-20kg/ha (20kg pack)

Cost effective one year legume mix, designed to be established in autumn when utilised as a one year break crop alternative. Developed to provide flowers in the spring and soil health benefits.

This mix has a range of flowering plants suitable for pollinators and is best suited to meet the requirements of NUM3.

SPECIFICATION

Common vetch	38%
Linseed	32%
Crimson clover	10%
Gold of pleasure	5%
Sainfoin	5%
Phacelia	4%
White Mustard	4%
Lucerne (inoculated)	2%

NUM3 Express legume fallow

Sowing rate: 20kg/ha (20kg pack)

Cost effective short term spring legume fallow mix. Species selected in this mix have fast germination and flower production to provide spring pollen requirements and deliver optimum soil benefits, whilst achieving the aims of NUM3.

Suitable for soils where early spring sowing is possible to allow sufficient time to produce flowers in the late spring - early summer.

Provides an alternative break crop opportunity on the right soil.

SPECIFICATION

Linseed	30%
Common vetch	20%
Buckwheat	20%
Crimson clover	10%
Berseem clover	8%
Gold of pleasure	5%
Phacelia	4%
Brown mustard	3%

This mix must be established early spring to ensure flowering can be achieved by late spring. Buckwheat is susceptible to frost and therefore the mix should not be autumn drilled.



AB15/NUM3 with grass

Sowing rate: 30-40kg/ha (20kg pack)

A two year legume fallow mix that contains ryegrass. This mix is very quick to establish, is more competitive against certain grass weeds and will provide ground cover throughout its lifetime.

An excellent soil conditioner, this mix can help build organic matter, fix nitrogen and provide plenty of nectar and pollen. We advise that you consult your agronomist before applying for this option as part of a grass weed control strategy.

SPECIFICATION

Perennial ryegrass	36%
Creeping red fescue	30%
Crimson clover	10%
Common vetch	10%
Red clover	5%
Lucerne (inoculated)	4%
Ermo alsike (clover)	3%
Birdsfoot trefoil	1%
Black medick	1%

AB15/NUM3 without grass

Sowing rate: 15-20kg/ha (20kg pack)

Schemes that start from January 2021 can use this mix to meet the requirements of the AB15 two year legume fallow option. By excluding grass from the mix, it is much easier to follow this option with an autumn sown cereal, without the presence of a dense thatch of decaying grass roots. The common vetch in the mix should provide good cover over winter, however it will not be as effective at suppressing weeds as the AB15/NUM3 mix with grass.

With a higher proportion of legumes, this mix will fix more nitrogen and provide an abundance of nectar in the summer months.

SPECIFICATION

Common vetch	52%
Crimson clover	12%
Alsike clover	12%
Lucerne (inoculated)	12%
Red clover	10%
Birdsfoot trefoil	1%
Black medick	1%

GS4/SAM3 Herbal ley (with legumes)

Sowing rate: 30kg/ha (20kg pack)

This mix provides an abundance of productive grazing for livestock whilst supporting diversity with habitat and a food source for invertebrates and pollinators. Herbal leys can develop a beneficial soil structure through the increase in organic matter due to the variety of species and the length of time they are in the soil. The grass in this mix offers a reliable bulk forage while the nitrogen fixing ability of the legumes reduces the need for artificial fertilisers.

An excellent opportunity to incorporate grass and livestock into an arable rotation, whilst still claiming additional support through an environmental scheme.

Further legume grass mixes for Countryside Stewardship and the Sustainable Farming Incentive are available through our Grasswise range. Visit our website for more information or ask your agronomist.

SPECIFICATION

Perennial ryegrass	27%
Festulolium	20%
Cocksfoot	13%
SSMG	10%
Red clover	7%
Sainfoin	6%
Timothy	5%
Lucerne (inoculated)	5%
Alsike clover	3%
Fenugreek	1%
Perennial chicory	1%
Plantain	0.7%
Sheeps burnet	0.5%
Birdsfoot trefoil	0.5%
Yarrow	0.25%
Sheeps parsley	0.05%

Stock should be introduced gradually over a two week period and an area of grassland should be available for animals to return to.

Water and hay or straw should also be made available.

Please contact us for further guidance.

This mix is also available without chicory.

SAM3 HERBAL LEY OVERSEED

SAM3 Herbal ley overseed

Sowing rate: 7-10kg/ha (5kg & 20kg pack)

A diverse herbal ley oversow mix designed for stitching into existing grass leys, where full reseeding is not desired. This mix is also available without perennial chicory.

SPECIFICATION

Plantain	25%
Red clover	23%
White clover	22%
Alsike clover	5%
Perennial chicory	5%
Sheeps burnet	5%
Sheeps parsley	5%
Timothy	5%
Birdsfoot trefoil	4%
Yarrow	1%

NUM2 GRASS LEGUME MIX

NUM2 Grass legume mix

Sowing rate: 30kg/ha (20kg pack)

A complementary grass legume blend, containing red and white clover ideal for NUM2.

The grass in this mix offers a reliable forage while the nitrogen fixing ability of the legumes reduces the need for artificial fertilisers.

SPECIFICATION

Perennial ryegrass	70%
Red clover	10%
White clover	6%
Plantain	6%
Timothy	6%
Sheeps burnet	2%

AB1/AHL1 Nectar flower mix

Sowing rate: 15kg/ha (15kg pack)

A good reliable nectar source, this option is rotational, so an ideal mix for short term sites. The perennial flowers in the mix will provide essential food sources for invertebrates and pollinators for the full five year term of the agreement.

Whilst quickly providing a multitude of flowers in year one, unlike the AB8/IPM2 options, AB1/AHL1 tends to lose out by year three/four, from competition weeds and grasses that begin to overcome the legumes.

SPECIFICATION

Sainfoin	33%
Common vetch	25%
Red clover	10%
Alsike clover	8%
Lucerne (inoculated)	8%
Crimson clover	6.5%
Birdsfoot trefoil	4%
Black medick	4%
Black knapweed	1%
Yarrow	0.5%



SW1-3/AHL3-4 Grass margin (BGM1)

Sowing rate: 20kg/ha (20kg pack)

This mix is designed to produce attractive field margins offering a permanent wildlife corridor and a physical barrier to weeds.

It creates a safe environment that attracts a wide range of insects, birds and mammals including providing nesting areas for pheasants and partridges, through the tall tussocky grasses. It has excellent drought tolerance.

Complies with SFI

- AHL4 and IGL3 Grass buffer strips

- AHL3 Grassy field corners and blocks

SPECIFICATION

Creeping red fescue	45%
Cocksfoot	20%
Tall fescue	20%
SSMG	10%
Timothy	5%

SW1-3/AHL3-4 Grass margin No Cocksfoot (BGM2)

Sowing rate: 20kg/ha (20kg pack)

Similar to the previous option, this mix still provides a dense grass margin, however without tussocky cocksfoot, which some farmers prefer to be absent from their margins.

Complies with SFI

- AHL4 and IGL3 Grass buffer strips

- AHL3 Grassy field corners and blocks

SPECIFICATION

Creeping red fescue	37%
Chewings fescue	22%
Tall fescue	22%
SSMG	12%
Timothy	7%



AB16 Autumn Bumblebird

Sowing rate: 40-50kg/ha (20kg pack)

A brilliant option for farm wildlife, this mix benefits from providing both ample nectar and plenty of feed for farmland birds in the second winter.

A great option for those looking to provide spring brood rearing habitat, followed by winter feed for wild partridges or pheasants. Ideally established as soon as possible after harvest.

This mix is effectively an autumn sown wild bird mix, however it will not provide feed in the first winter.

Speak to us if you need a bespoke mix.

SPECIFICATION

Winter wheat	26%
Winter barley	25%
Winter triticale	15%
Fodder radish	8%
Common vetch	6%
Crimson clover	5%
Kale	5%
Gold of pleasure	3.4%
Lucerne (inoculated)	3%
Birdsfoot trefoil	1%
Phacelia	1%
Red clover	1%
Black knapweed	0.2%
Oxeye daisy	0.2%
Yarrow	0.2%



Speak to your agronomist or our specialist Environmental Services team to ensure you get the best results from your scheme.

HUTCHINSONS

Crop Production Specialists

H L Hutchinson Limited • Weasenham Lane
Wisbech • Cambridgeshire • PE13 2RN

Tel: 01945 461177

Email: enviro@hlhlted.co.uk

 [@Hutchinsons_Ag](https://twitter.com/Hutchinsons_Ag)  [HLHutchinsons](https://www.facebook.com/HLHutchinsons)

www.hutchinsons.co.uk