

Our top plant picks: wildflowers to grow in long grass

These perennial plants are resilient and will cope with tough growing conditions. As sensory-rich plants, they are great for pollinators, the climate and us.

Red campion (*Silene dioica*) ☀️ 🌱

This slender, gangly plant has small dusky pink flowers. The stem and leaves are downy which makes them soft to the touch and greyish to look at. The tubular flowers form long, dry seed pods full of tiny black seeds. They are a common sight in verges and hedgerows in summer.



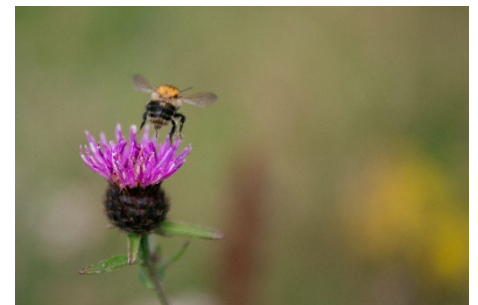
Cranesbill, geranium (*Geranium pratense*) 🌱

Sprawling stems and palm-shaped deeply cut leaves support continuous displays of soft powder flowers that are silky to touch. The seed heads emerge like pointed beaks, hence the common name cranesbill. They are common along verges in summer.



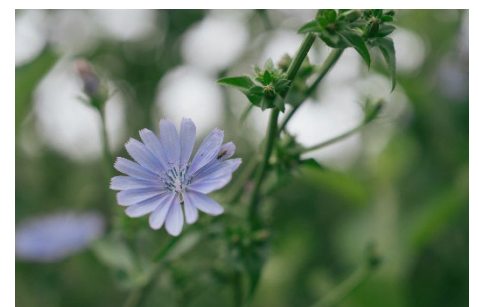
Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) ☀️ 🌱

The small vivid pink flowers are soft and fluffy to the touch. They sit above large, hard round bases, earning them the name 'hardheads'. Their leaves are hairy and the stems are rough to the touch. The flowers are loved by bees and other pollinators.



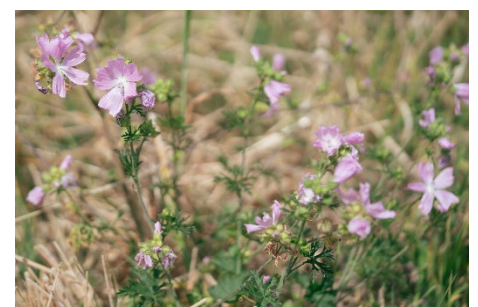
Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) ☀️ 🌱

The dainty soft blue flowers are star shaped with many petals. It is one of the most graceful additions to verges in summer. The stems are wiry and coarse to the touch, contrasting with the softness of the flowers. They are loved by pollinators.



Common mallow (*Malva sylvestris*) ☀️ 🌱

The soft pink or mauve flowers are large and funnel shaped with a characteristic notch in the ends of the petals. Their leaves are hairy and the stems are rough to the touch. They produce a sticky sap, the original source of marsh mallows.



Our top plant picks: wildflowers to grow in short grass

These perennial plants are resilient and will cope with tough growing conditions. As sensory-rich plants, they are great for pollinators, the climate and us.

Clover (*Trifolium repens*) ☼

Well known for its leaves in groups of three, and on a lucky day four. Clover flowers are full of nectar that is sweet to smell and attracts the pollinators. The plant adds valuable nitrogen to the soil and that's why a patch of clover can look darker green than the surrounding grass.



Self heal (*Prunella vulgaris*) 🌱

Clusters of nectar-rich violet blue flowers sit around pyramidal spikes which stand proud of a low-growing mat of leaves. Like other members of the mint family, the stems are square and leaves are veined and slightly wrinkled, although without the distinctive scent.



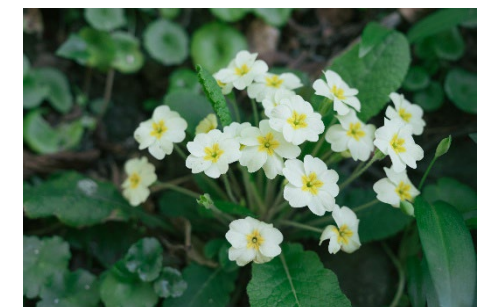
Wild daffodil (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*) ●

The native Jonquil is a smaller, dainty form of the familiar daffodil. Thin, grey-green leaves emerge in spring. These are followed by flowers with pale yellow sepals surrounding a deeper yellow trumpet. They are sweetly scented and herald the start of the new season.



Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*) ☼ 🌱

The creamy yellow flowers, with their orange eyes, are an early sign of spring. The name comes from prima rosa, the first flowers. The flowers sit above spatula-shaped leaves which are coarse to the touch and will continue through the rest of the year after the flowers have finished.



Daisy (*Bellis perennis*) ☼ 🌱

Daisies are so familiar it is easy to overlook that they are one of the most resilient and beautiful grassland flowers. They survive extremes of drought and waterlogging and add cooling and soil repair during the worst conditions. Their small dainty white flowers are beautiful too.

