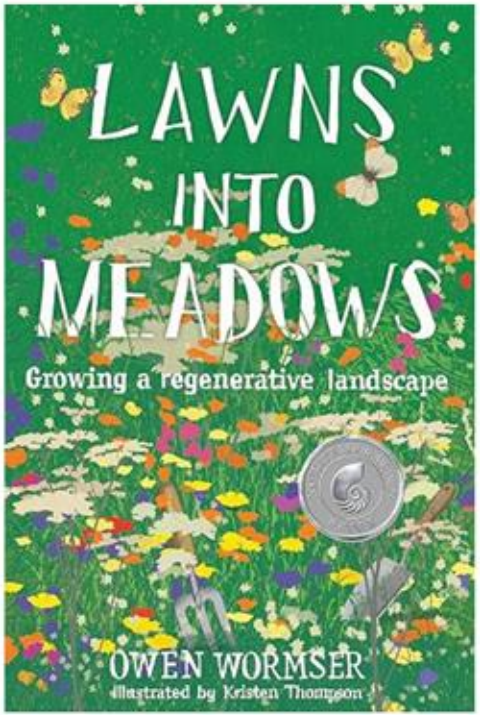
# Meadow Making and Management

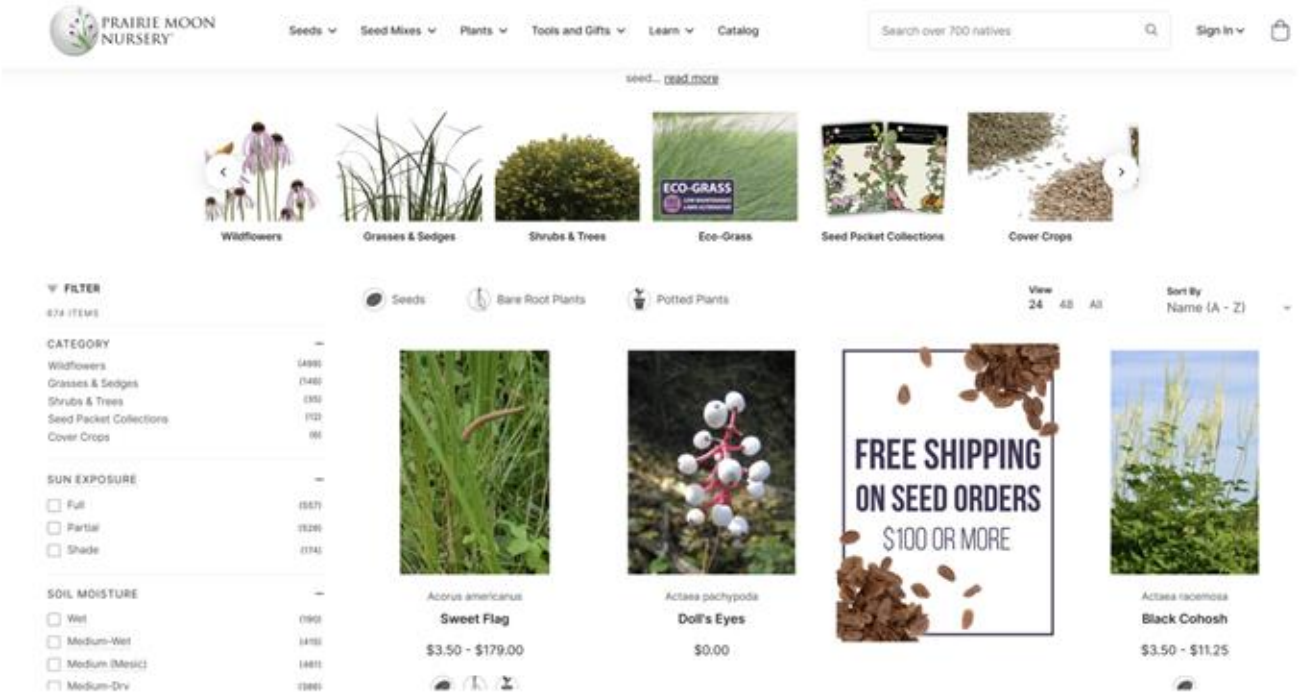
A panel discussion moderated by Tim Kennelty, with Linda Reardon (gardener and meadow maker), Deborah Wren (landscape designer), Barbara Hughey (plant professional), and Claudia Knab-Vispo (botanist)

# Linda Reardon: Taghkanic Meadow

Before

# Early experiments!


LAWNS
INTO
MEADOWS
Growing a regenerative landscape
OWEN WORMSER
illustrated by Kristen Thompson


PRAIRIE MOON NURSERY
Seeds
Seed Mixes
Plants
Tools and Gifts
Learn
Catalog
Search over 700 natives
Sign In
seed... read more
Wildflowers
Grasses & Sedges
Shrubs & Trees
Eco-Grass
Seed Packet Collections
Cover Crops
FILTER
474 ITEMS
CATEGORY
Wildflowers
Grasses & Sedges
Shrubs & Trees
Seed Packet Collections
Cover Crops
SUN EXPOSURE
Full
Partial
Shade
SOIL MOISTURE
Wet
Medium-Wet
Medium (Mesic)
Medium-Dry
Seeds
Bare Root Plants
Potted Plants
View
24
48
All
Sort By
Name (A - Z)
Acorus americanus
Sweet Flag
$3.50 - $179.00
Actaea pachypoda
Doll's Eyes
$0.00
FREE SHIPPING
ON SEED ORDERS
$100 OR MORE
Actaea racemosa
Black Cohosh
$3.50 - $11.25

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 5 - more grasses

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Order Comments

| Item | Description | Quantity Ordered | Back Ordered | Quantity Shipped | Price | Extended Price |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AGA02F-S-Z | Agastache foeniculum - Anise Hyssop Seeds: 1 oz. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 20.00 | 60.00 |
| ANE02F-S-Z | Anemone canadensis - Canada Anemone Seeds: 1 oz. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 35.00 | 35.00 |
| ASC08F-S-Z | Asclepias incarnata - Rose Milkweed Seeds: 1 oz. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 12.00 | 48.00 |
| ASC14F-S-Z | Asclepias syriaca - Common Milkweed Seeds: 1 oz. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 8.00 | 32.00 |
| ASC16F-S-Z | Asclepias tuberosa - Butterfly Weed Seeds: 1 oz. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 25.00 | 50.00 |
| COR02F-S-B | Coreopsis lanceolata - Lance-leaf Coreopsis Seeds: 1 lb. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| PET02F-S-Z | Dalea candida - White Prairie Clover Seeds: 1 oz. | 8 | 0 | 8 | 4.00 | 32.00 |
| ECH08F-S-B | Echinacea purpurea - Purple Coneflower Seeds: 1 lb. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 45.00 | 45.00 |
| HEL82F-S-B | Heliopsis helianthoides - Early Sunflower Seeds: 1 lb. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 45.00 | 45.00 |

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| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Early Sunflower Seeds: 1 lb. | | | | | |
| AR02F-S-Z | Parthenium integrifolium - Wild Quinine Seeds: 1 oz. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 12.00 | 48.00 |
| EN07F-S-Z | Penstemon hirsutus - Hairy Beardtongue Seeds: 1 oz. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 15.00 | 30.00 |
| RUD02F-S-B | Rudbeckia hirta - Black-eyed Susan Seeds: 1 lb. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| OL14F-S-2 | Solidago speciosa - Showy Goldenrod Seeds: 1/2 oz. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 16.25 | 32.50 |
| ST10F-S-Z | Symphyotrichum laeve - Smooth Blue Aster Seeds: 1 oz. | 3 | 0 | 3 | 25.00 | 75.00 |
| ST18F-S-Z | Symphyotrichum novae-angliae - New England Aster Seeds: 1 oz. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 30.00 | 60.00 |
| ER04F-S-Z | Verbena stricta - Hoary Vervain Seeds: 1 oz. | 4 | 0 | 4 | 6.00 | 24.00 |
| OU02G-S-B | Bouteloua curtipendula - Side-oats Grama Seeds: 1 lb. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 14.00 | 28.00 |
| AN04G-S-B | Panicum virgatum - Switch Grass Seeds: 1 lb. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 14.00 | 28.00 |

**Timeline**

Fall 2020: planning
Summer 2021: tilling
Winter 2021: broadcast seeds,
Summer 2022: repeated mowing (Year 1)
2023 - 2025: spring brush-hog
Fall 2026: deer exclosure

It doesn’t have to be big!

# Deborah Wren: Meadow-Making with New Leaf Eco Landscapes

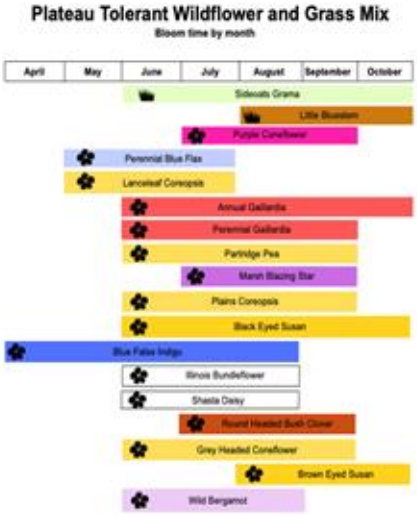
Two different approaches to prep for meadows:

- Till & tarp (occultation) - cannot always till first!
- Multi-till & cover crop

We use a few different approaches to install:

- Hand broadcast seed, incorporate with chain harrow or hardrake
- Install plugs/potted planted material & hand broadcast seed in vacant areas
- Topping with straw vs not
- Jute erosion blankets

# Plateau-Tolerant Meadows




- Rocky soil (see meadow on gravel!)
- Low or no organic matter
- Arid environment
- Exposed boulders

# Through the years: Establishing a Plateau Tolerant Meadow in Austerlitz, NY

2023

2024

2025

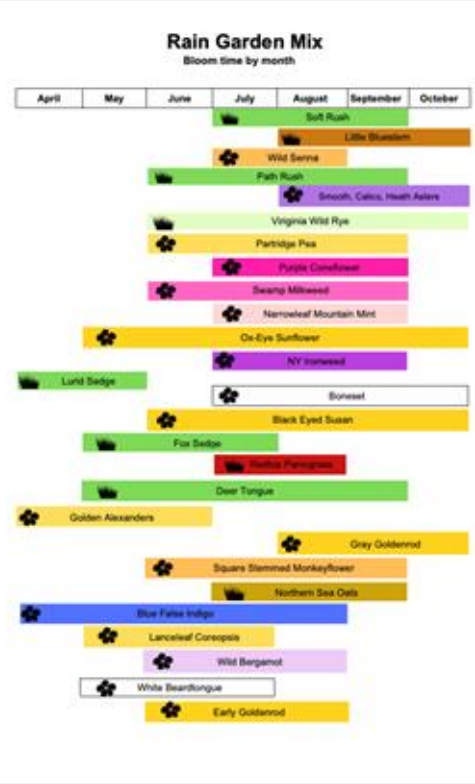
2026

# Through the years: Establishing a ‘Rain Garden’ Meadow in Ghent, NY

2023

2024

2025



# Through the years: Establishing a ‘Rain Garden’ Meadow in Ghent, NY

## Year 4

## Year 1 vs. Year 4

# ‘Rain Garden’ Meadow with potted plants & seed in East Chatham, NY

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

# Steep Slope Meadows

# Barbara Hughey

# **Claudia Knab-Vispo –** Four very different meadows

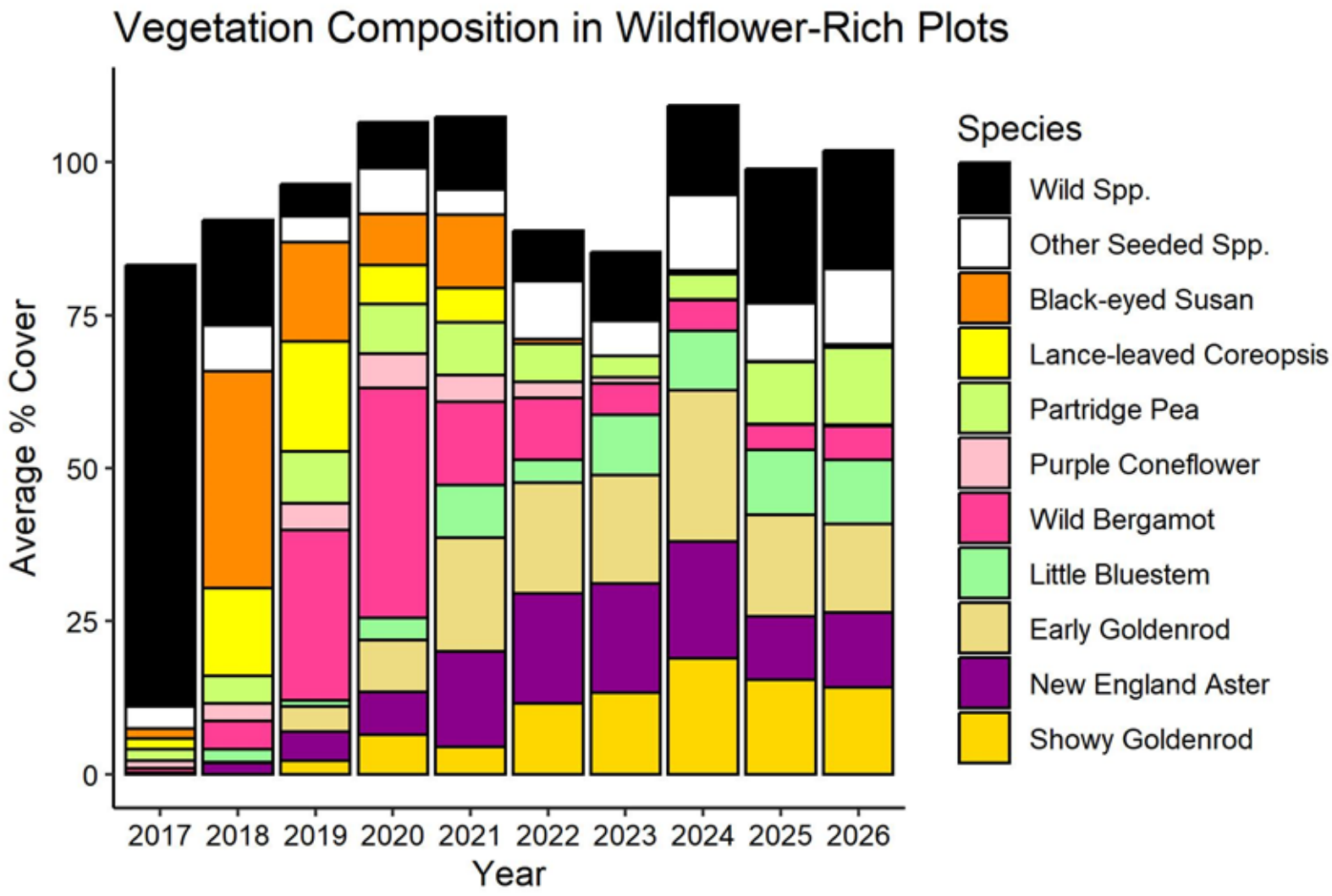
Native Meadow Trial at Hudson Valley Farm Hub (Hurley, NY); May 2017

Pollinator Strip at CLC's Overmountain CA (Ancram, NY); Nov. 2019

Lawn to Meadow in Native Plant Garden at the Creekhouse at Hawthorne Valley Farm (Harlemville, NY); 2012

Village of Chatham Water Tank Meadow (Chatham, NY); Feb. 2021

# Native Meadow Trial at Hudson Valley Farm Hub


Vegetation Composition in Wildflower-Rich Plots
Average % Cover
0
25
50
75
100
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
Year
Species
Wild Spp.
Other Seeded Spp.
Black-eyed Susan
Lance-leaved Coreopsis
Partridge Pea
Purple Coneflower
Wild Bergamot
Little Bluestem
Early Goldenrod
New England Aster
Showy Goldenrod

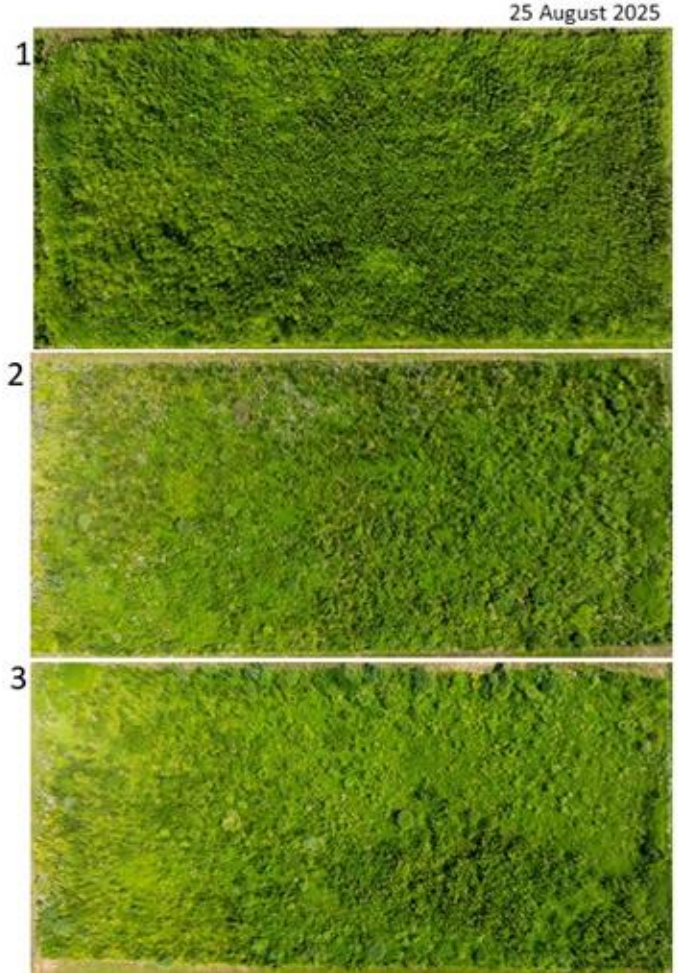
2018: 2nd year

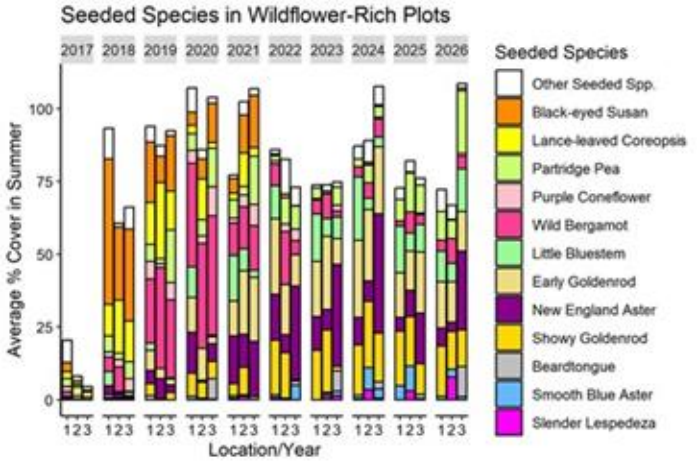
2020: 4th year

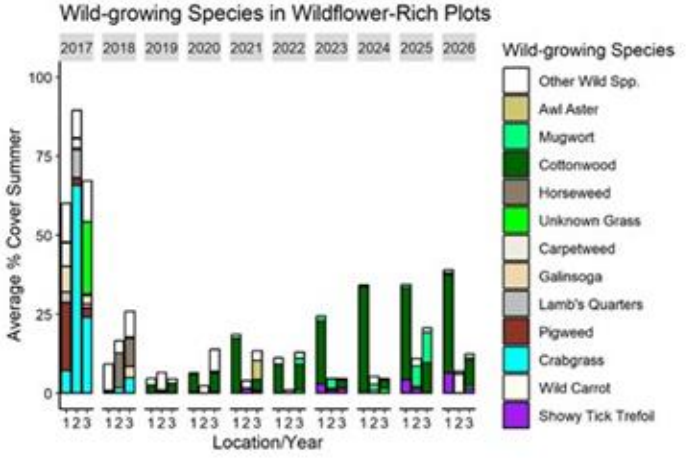
2024: 8th year

# Native Meadow Trial at Hudson Valley Farm Hub

# Native Meadow Trial at Hudson Valley Farm Hub: Variation between plots



# Overmountain CA: Pollinator Strip (seeded in Nov. 2019)

Aug 2021

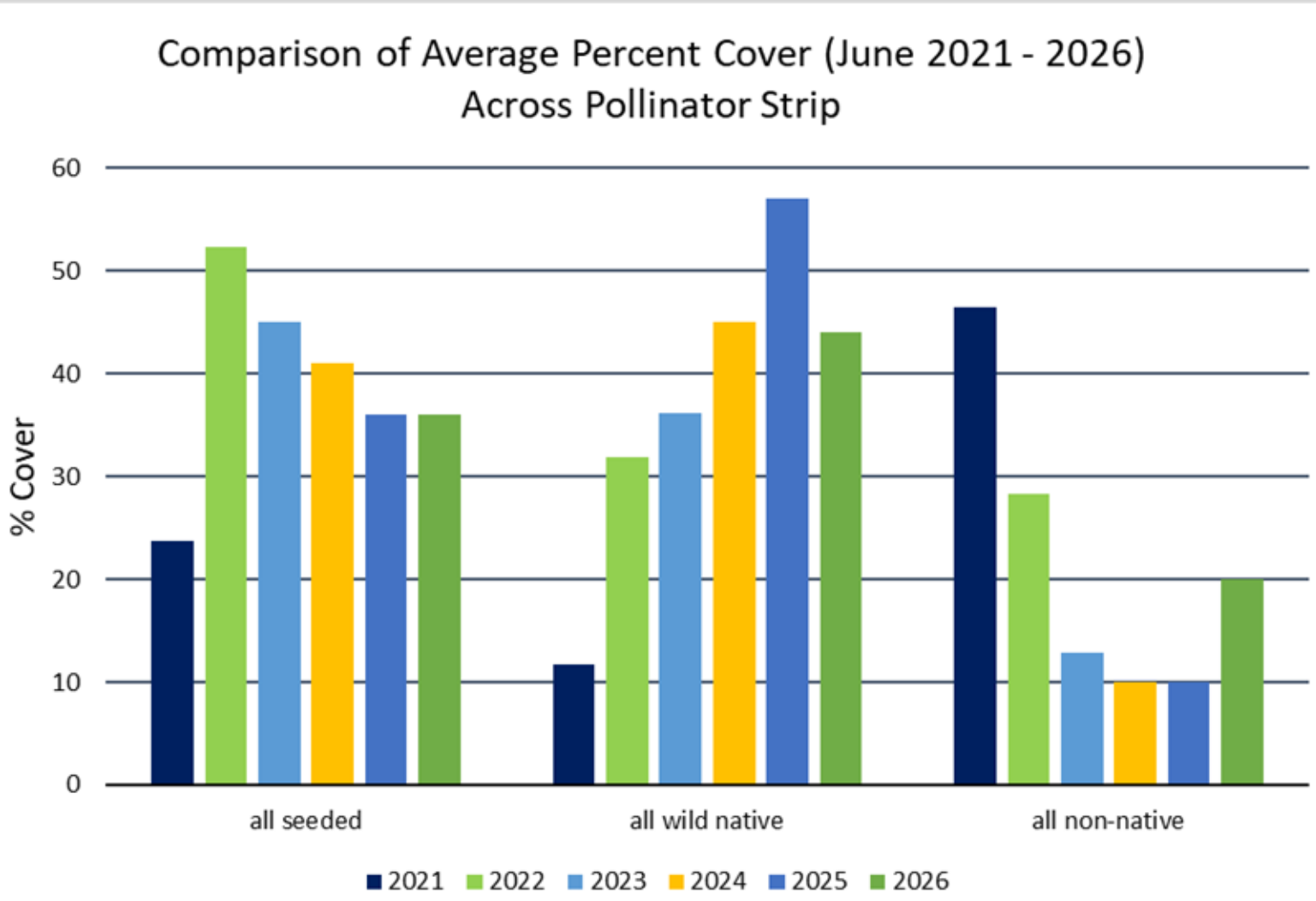
June 2022

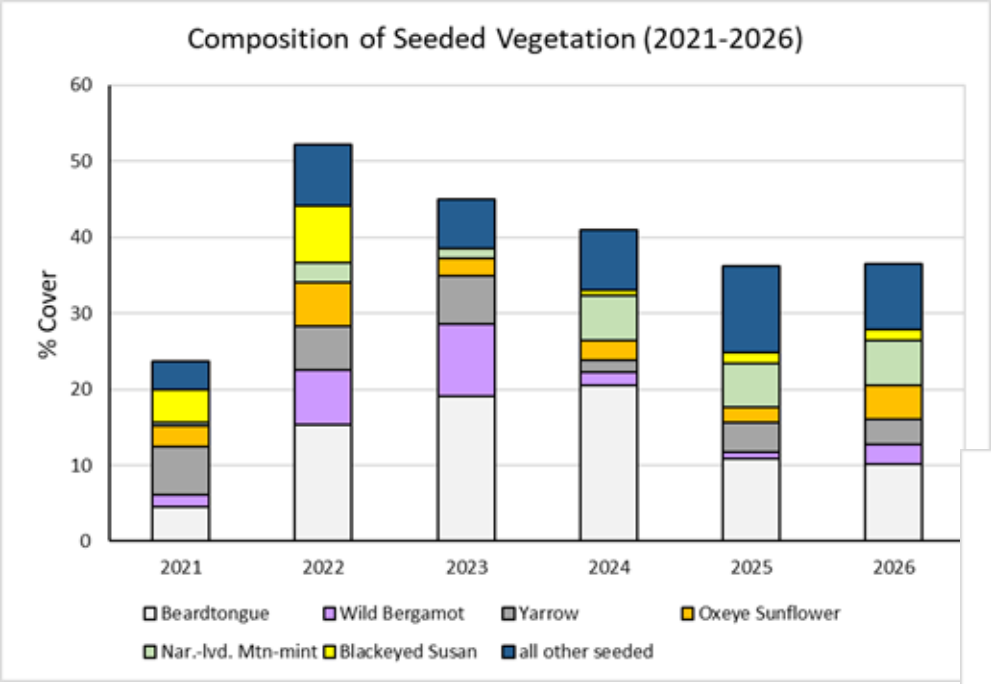
July 2022

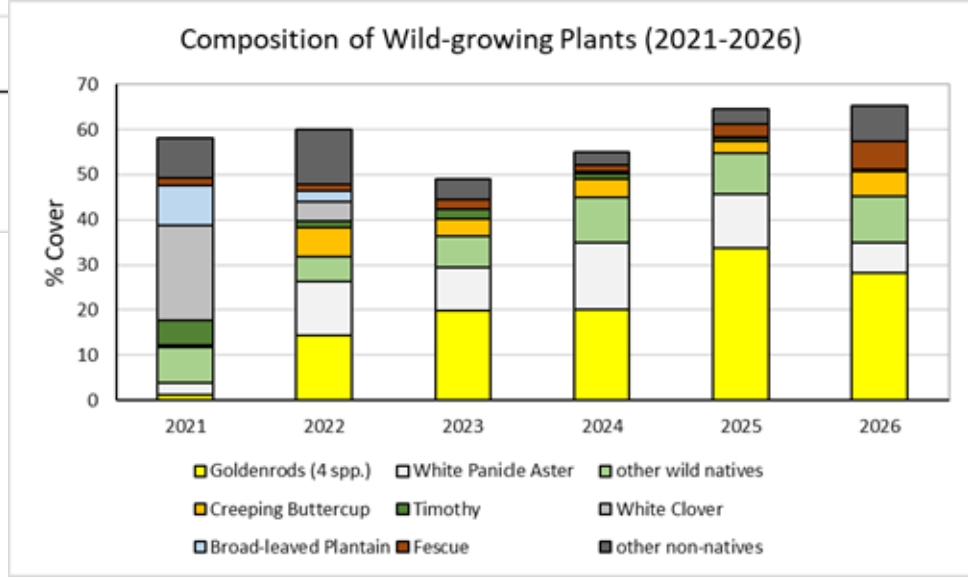
July 2022

July 2023

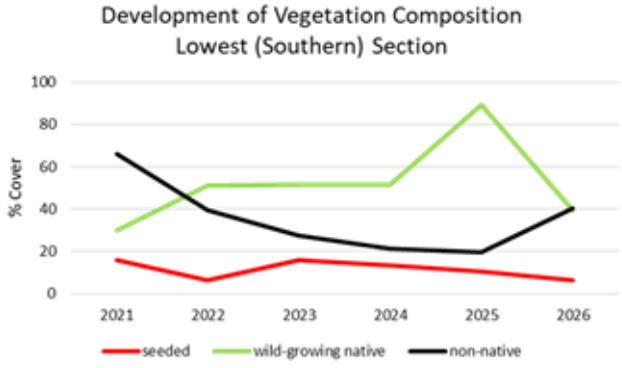
July 2024

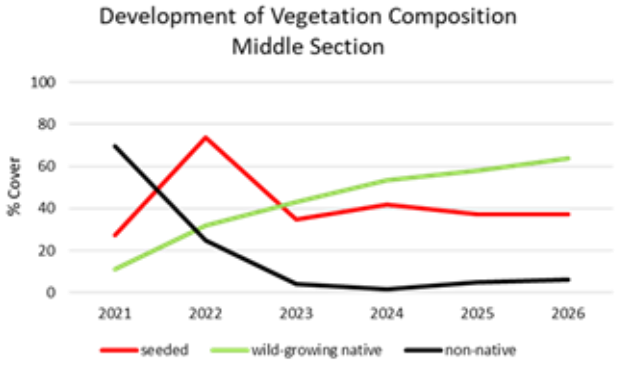

Comparison of Average Percent Cover (June 2021 - 2026)
Across Pollinator Strip
% Cover
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
all seeded
all wild native
all non-native
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026

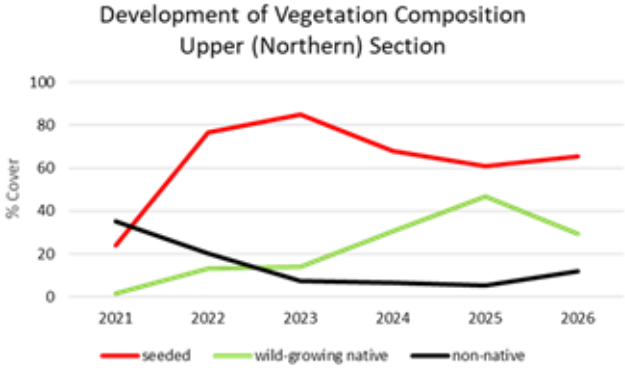

Composition of Seeded Vegetation (2021-2026)
% Cover
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
Beardtongue
Wild Bergamot
Yarrow
Oxeye Sunflower
Nar.-lvd. Mtn-mint
Blackeyed Susan
all other seeded


Composition of Wild-growing Plants (2021-2026)
% Cover
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
Goldenrods (4 spp.)
White Panicle Aster
other wild natives
Creeping Buttercup
Timothy
White Clover
Broad-leaved Plantain
Fescue
other non-natives

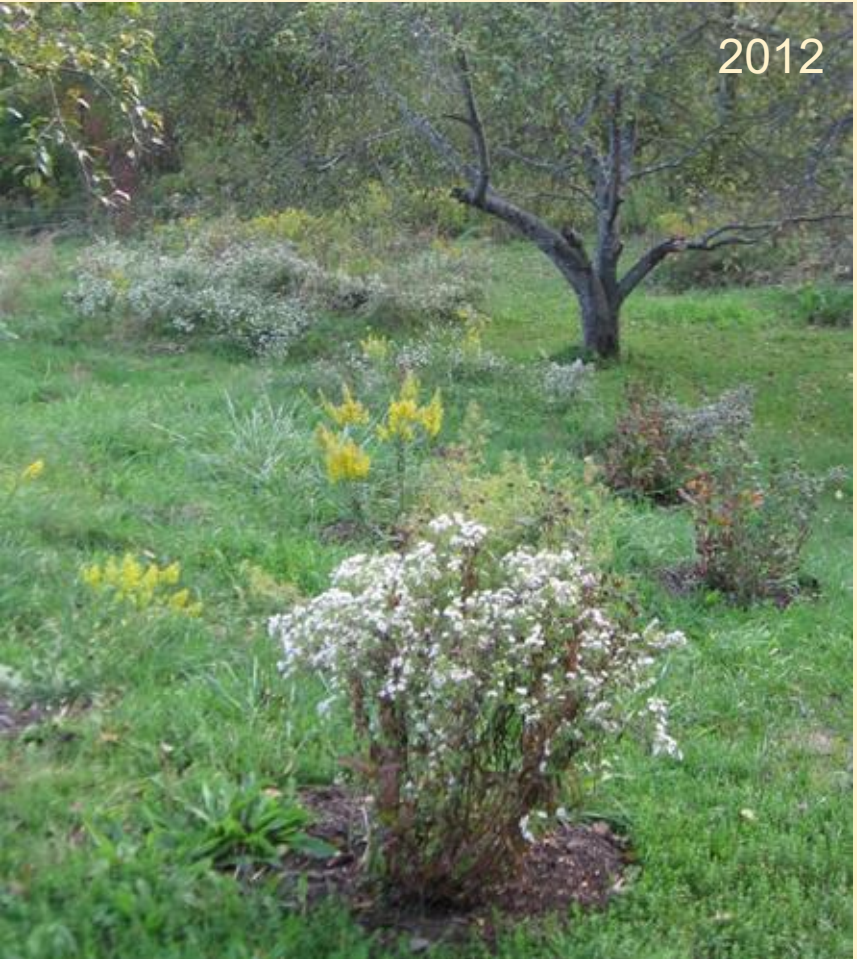
# Variation in vegetation across strip (same seed mix)



# Creekhouse Native Plant Garden: Lawn to Meadow



# Village of Chatham: Watertank Meadow

Feb. 2020

Oct. 2020

Feb. 2021

July 2022

Dec. 2023

July 2024

Aug. 2024

# Pollinator Meadow

Seeded with native plants

by a group of neighbors on Village land below the recently constructed water tank in February of 2021
(the proposal for this alternative to lawn had been approved by the Village Board on March 2nd 2020)

## Meadow Creation

February 2020

Post-construction site preparation October 2020

Meadow Seeding February 2021

2nd Summer, July 2022

Unmowed Meadow in Winter, December 2023

## Early Summer Flowers and Pollinators in 2023 (June)

Great Spangled Fritillary on Lance-leaved Coreopsis

Native sweat bee on Forget-me-not

Native bee on Lance-leaved Coreopsis

Great Spangled Fritillary on Common Milkweed

Blue-eyed Grass

Native bee on Fleabane

Dun Skipper on Common Milkweed

## Mid Summer Flowers and Flower Visitors in 2023 (July)

Wild Bergamot

Coneflower (pink), Narrow-leaved Mountain-mint (white), Brown-eyed Susan (yellow)

Swamp Milkweed etc.

Blue Vervain

Black Swallowtail

Great Golden Digger Wasp on Narrow-leaved Mountain-mint

Monarch on Swamp Milkweed

Dun Skipper on Wild Bergamot

Pearl Crescent on Narrow-leaved Mountain-mint

Bumblebee on Blue Vervain

Banded Longhorn Beetle on Swamp Milkweed

Dun Skipper on Yarrow

## Late Summer Flowers in 2023 (August 26th./Sept.)

Brown-eyed Susan (yellow), Great Blue Lobelia (blue), Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint (white), Wild Bergamot (lavender), and Spotted Joe-Pye-weed (pink)

For more information and species lists, scan QR code or go to: hvfarmscape.org/PollinatorMeadowChatham

If you have questions, would like a guided tour of the meadow, or are interested in volunteering as a meadow steward (occasional weeding of invasive species), please contact Claudia Knab-Vispo (518-938-1109) or Claudia@hawthornevalleyfarm.org