

Excerpt from March '20 issue of MWF Buzz email newsletter. If interested in monthly native plant news sign up on our website.

Q:

Help! How do I achieve good seed coverage with this small amount of seed?

A:

With the seeding rate for most of our seed mixes being 10 lbs./acre or 5 oz./1000 square feet, one can be understandably nervous about making sure that the “small” amount of the seed will actually cover the prepared seeding area.

A carrier may be added to increase the bulk of the material sown. The carrier should be comprised of material relatively fine, uniform in size and easily mixable. Examples include sand, sawdust, vermiculite and kitty litter.

Follow these steps to prepare and sow your wildflower seed:

1. Place seed in a bowl or bucket.
2. Add as much of the carrier to the seed as you like.
3. Mix well.
4. Divide this mixture in approximately one half.
5. Place this half amount in broadcast seeder or place in smaller bucket to seed by hand.
6. Sow this seed over the entire site, back and forth.
7. Keep seed mixed well throughout sowing.
8. Take remaining half amount and cover the entire site perpendicular to the first pass.
9. Keep seed mixed well throughout sowing.

Adding a carrier provides more volume to work with in your seed sowing and following these steps will help to assure that you achieve good seed coverage.

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