

No Mow May and Loaning Your Lawn



Bee Positive!
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Loan your lawn



You don't need to be a beekeeper to help keep bees.

If you have a garden the simplest step you can take to support wildlife is to cut your grass less often.

Gardens are crucial for nature - they cover more space than all UK Nature Reserves put together. Lawns are a home for beetles, worms and other insects, and they attract birds such as blackbirds that feed on the invertebrates hidden beneath the grass.

When you mow less often wildflowers in your lawn, including daisies, clover and selfheal have a chance to flower and provide a huge nectar boost for bees and other pollinators.

Wildflower charity [Plantlife uk](http://Plantlife.uk) are encouraging less mowing, and researching the results with their Every Flower Counts campaign which has come up with some interesting statistics.

The top three lawn flowers are daisies, white clover and selfheal and flower and nectar production is highest in lawns cut once every 4 weeks, in fact this boosted nectar production tenfold giving 'short-grass' plants like daisies a chance to flower in profusion.

This means you can help pollinators and increase the nectar supply of your garden without needing to let your grass grow really long - cutting it once every four weeks to a height of approximately 5 cms allows for a profusion of daisies but grass that you can still walk on. Your wild flower meadow can genuinely be a mini meadow growing only a few inches tall but packing a nectar punch nonetheless.

Areas of longer unmown grass are more diverse in their flowers, with plants like oxeye daisy, and

knapweed increasing the range of nectar sources for different pollinators and extending nectar availability into late summer.

Plantlife recommends trying to have both long and shorter areas of grass to maximise the wildlife benefits of your lawn. Longer unmown areas of grass will attract pollinating bees, butterflies, beetles and more. Longer grass also provides shelter for animals such as frogs, newts, hedgehogs and lizards to forage.

Please have a look at Plantlife's wonderful No Mow May campaign as well as the other resources linked below.

[No Mow May](#)

[How to grow a lawn that's better for wildlife](#)

[Wildlife-friendly, low-maintenance alternatives to a traditional grass lawn](#)

[Lawns for Wildlife | Advice - The RSPB](#)