

**Pollinator 327 Intensive Mix** after two years planting-  
Bee Balm (white), Coneflower (pink and orange), partridge pea  
(yellow) Mid-July UNH Horticultural Farm Durham NH





**To prepare old fields for pollinator habitat seeding, mow at least three times (spring/summer/fall) the first year to control annual weeds.**





**Old Fields- Very “Weedy- need more site prep!” –Fields which are mowed late each year create a giant seed bank in the soil, a year of regular mowing (spring summer fall , and 2 herbicide applications are helpful before planting. For Organic Producers, mow and disk, (see Job Sheet.)**





## **315- Herbaceous Weed Management**

### **Mow and Spray**

**This field was mowed sprayed with round-up in August, by early November grass is not fully controlled, this field needs to be plowed or re-sprayed before seeding. If spraying is the alternative wait until growing season is active.**





Steve Wood (left) of Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon NH, and Eric Mader of Xerces Society, looking at a site which was mowed and sprayed twice with round-up. A light disk or chain harrow is perfect to remove some thatch before a fall seeding.





Frost seeding clover after mowing helps improve pollen and nectar resources for pollinators and improves soil quality. Below a seeding of red mammoth clover.





**Below a spring plow down of sod. Note the regularly mowed agricultural field is relatively free of annual and perennial weeds. In this case plow and plant in the spring works well.**





**Two years later, coneflower, blanket flower, and New England Aster (purple) develop a field border for pollinators and other wildlife.**





Using a hand seeder to spread expensive seed. At \$200 per pound, you need to be careful to get these tiny seeds spread, and bulking them up with play sand or lower cost seed is a good idea. Go slow at first, and ziz-zag back and forth, with the seed gate open on the lowest setting until you calibrate how fast you are walking. Note the ground has been roughed up with a chain harrow.





**A conical tractor mounted seeder or “cyclone” works great for low cost mix seed like clover and buckwheat , this type of seeder shouldn’t be used for the expensive seed like bee balm or NE aster, because it is too tiny and will not mix well in the seeder. Also is hard to have control over the seeding rate with just a few pounds per acre.**

