

Biodiverse lawns
started with plants
not grass seed.



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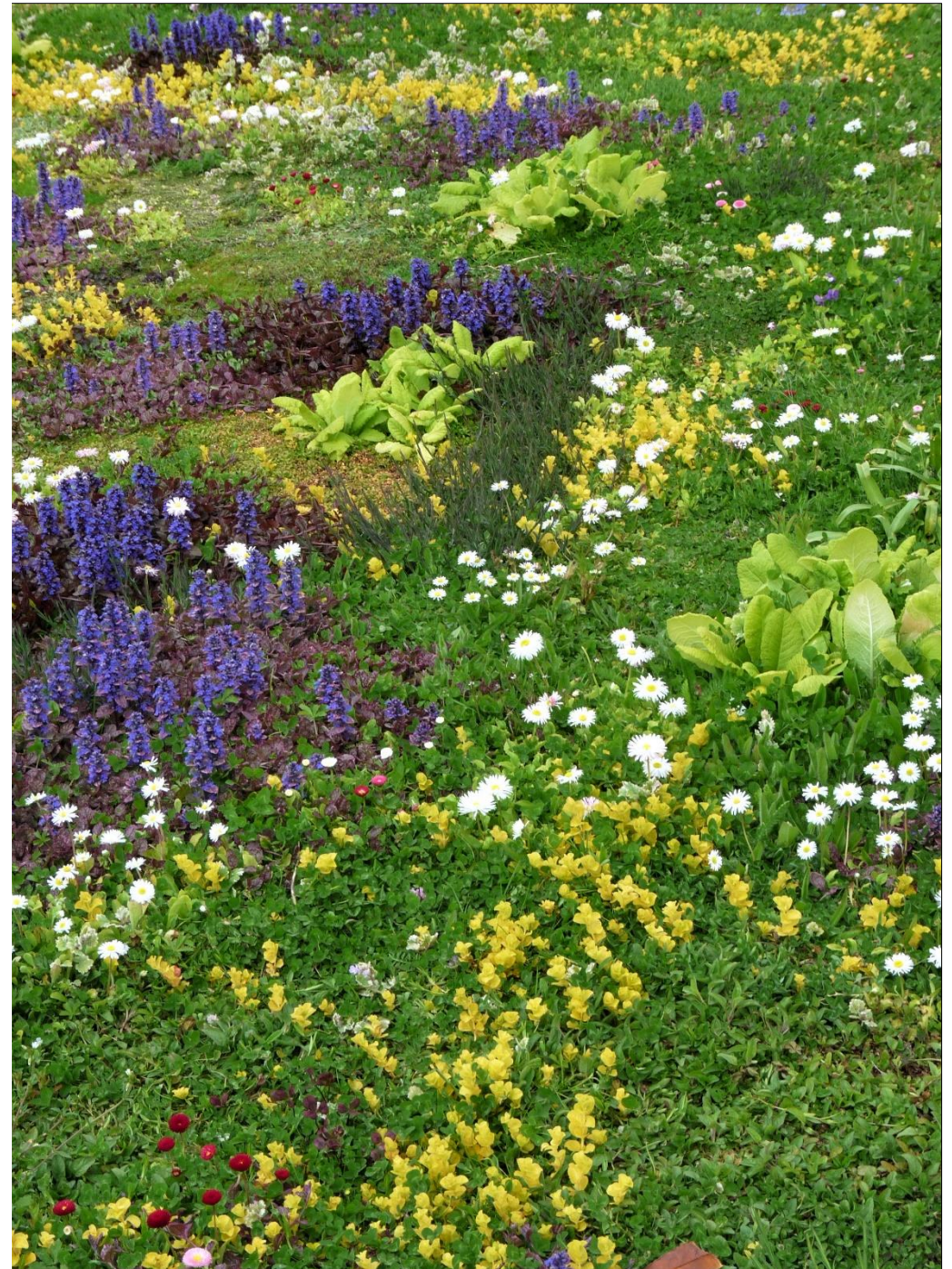
What are tapestry lawns?

Tapestry lawns (T-lawns) are made by using specific mowing tolerant plants (forbs) instead of grass.

Why?

The common image of the 'perfect' grass lawn is one of a monoculture of grass. Monocultures are uncommon in nature and to maintain one takes substantial amounts of energy and effort leading them to be termed 'industrial lawns' due to the amount of fossil fuel, chemical additives and number of management techniques that are continuously required to maintain them to an ideal standard.

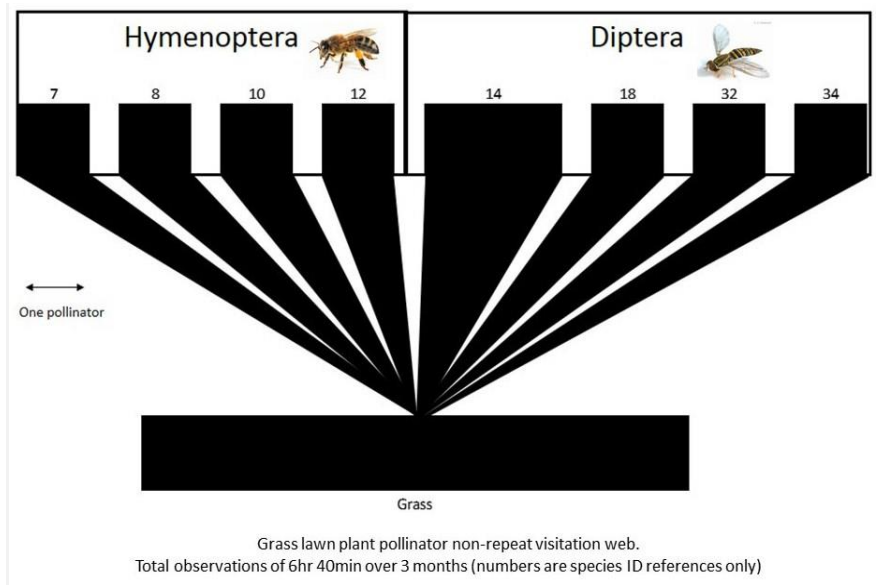
The perfect grass lawn has also been described as a 'green desert' since a regularly mown and highly managed grass monoculture does not provide much in the way of habitat or resources for plants, lawn inhabiting invertebrates or pollinators.



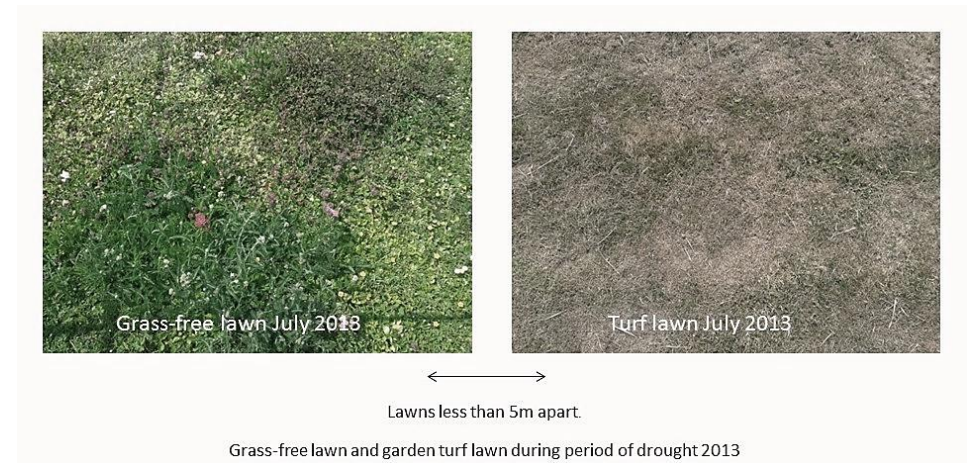
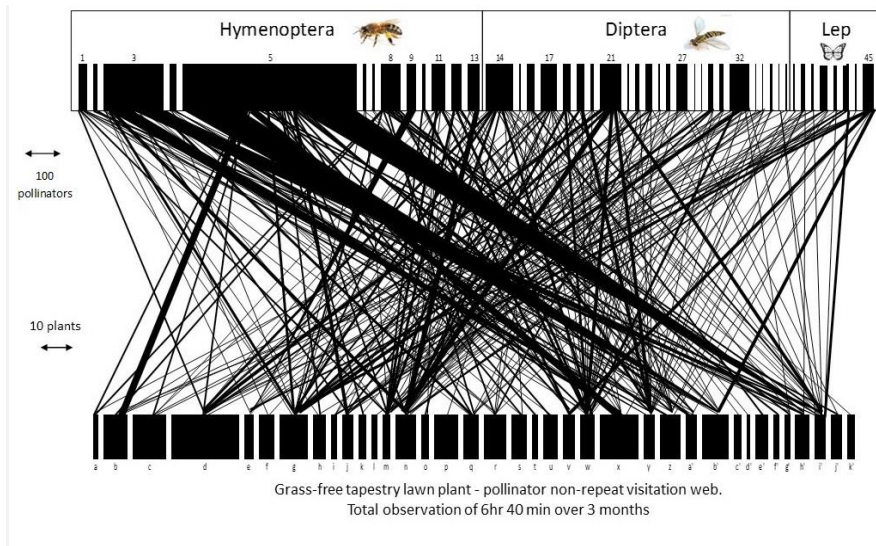
How are tapestry lawns different?

- T- lawns can produce over 20 times more flowers than traditional grass lawns.
- They are visited by and provide a source of nectar and pollen for more species of pollinators than grass lawns.
- Native and mixed origin species T- lawns contain significantly more invertebrate life than turf lawns, providing for birds and small mammals.
- Plants can be selected for flowers, foliage, scent, and novelty.
- There is an immediate and significant increase in plant diversity when replacing a monoculture type turf lawn.
- Mowing is reduced by up to two thirds from the traditional 20-30+ times a year to around 5-7 times annually.
- CO₂ emissions are significantly reduced due to the reduction in mowing requirements.

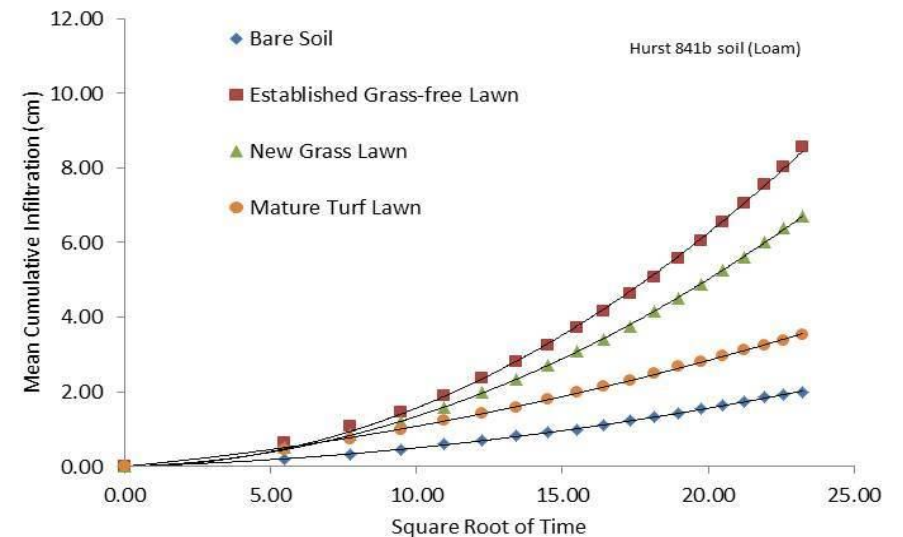
- No requirement for de-thatching.
- T- lawns do best with no added fertiliser and need no watering once established.
- Although not specifically designed for heavy footfall they can be walked on. It helps maintain their form and can release fragrance.
- The use of many British native plants makes it very easy to grow in the UK.
- Using 12+ species ground coverage is equivalent to that found in grass lawns.
- T-lawns show drought tolerance remaining greener for longer during short periods of drought.
- T-lawns can absorb rainfall up to twice as fast as common turf lawns and up to three times faster than bare soil.
- It is quite possible to add and remove plants as required in a new form of avant-garde horticulture – lawn gardening!

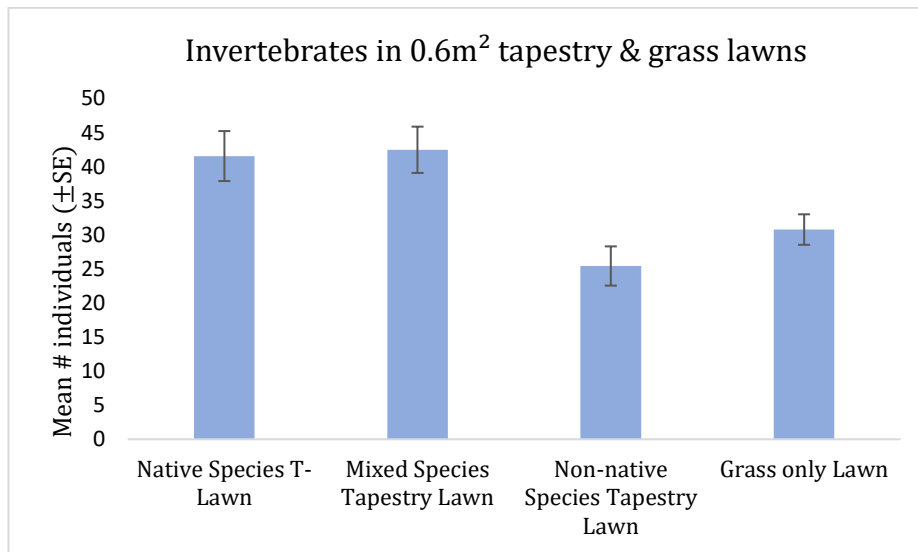


Plant-Pollinator interactions between a grass lawn (above) and a tapestry lawn format (below). Scale is X100 for T-lawn.



T-lawns exhibit drought tolerance (above) and show increased rainfall infiltration compared to turf lawns (below).





The Responses of Lawn Invertebrates to Sward Management and Composition. T. S. A. Latter



Above: Mixed origin T-lawn.



Above: London borough park T-lawn and RHS Wisley example T-lawn.

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