

# Existing Stands

## **Fall Sowing:**

**Method #1** Graze or mow the existing grass to a height of 2-3 inches. Use a no-till drill and seed at a rate of 5-8 lbs./Acre. Make sure that you have your drill set for no deeper than ½ inch. There are a lot of smaller seeds in this mix and if you bury them too deeply you will negatively affect your germination.

**Method #2** If you don't have access to a no-till drill you can still utilize this mix by broadcasting it over the surface of the soil. This method takes a little more finesse and often times people compensate by bumping up the seeding rate slightly. For best results give a quick graze to the pasture, the goal is to open up the canopy of the pasture so that when you seed you have a better chance of obtaining seed to soil contact. The OMRI approved coating assists in this by increasing the ballistic properties of the seed allowing for greater penetration of the leafy canopy. On a day when the soil is wet, turn your livestock into the field and graze to 2-3 inches. Let their hooves do the work of pushing the seed into the ground! The coating on the seed also makes it less attractive to birds and rodents so more of the seed has a chance to germinate and there is less chance for it going through an animal's digestive tract.

## **Winter Sowing:**

This is often referred to as frost seeding or dormant seeding. In areas of the country that experience frequent frost during the growing months this is an easy way to increase the presence of pollinator friendly plants into your pasture. The trick is to broadcast the seed over the surface of the pasture when there is little to no snow present. The heaving of the soil generated by the frost will work the seed into the soil where it will germinate when conditions are more optimal in the Spring.

## **Spring Sowing:**

For best results Spring sowing should be limited to new pastures. The problem is that the Spring flush of growth in the grasses in the pasture will outcompete and smother the new seedlings as they try to establish. You can spot treat your existing pastures by broadcasting the seed into thin areas where there is little to no grasses.