

**ELS June – Nectar flower mixture (EF4)** – between mid-June and the end of the first week of July you should cut half of the area of each nectar flower plot down to 20cm to stimulate late flowering. **DO NOT CUT IF GROUND NESTING BIRDS ARE PRESENT.** **Permanent grassland with low inputs (EK2)** – from 1<sup>st</sup> June can be cut, harrowed and rolled. If cut, the cuttings **MUST** be removed. **Very low input grass (EK3)** **CANNOT** be touched until 1<sup>st</sup> July.



**MID-TIER CS – Winter Bird Food (AB9)** plots should be drilled by 15<sup>th</sup> June BUT provided you have the seed on farm and the plot is clearly not growing another crop there is little point drilling unless you can irrigate. Use the dry weather to create a false seedbed. If you are inspected after 15<sup>th</sup> June and you haven't yet drilled the inspector will simply see a bare plot which looks as though it has been drilled. Our advice is to wait for moisture before drilling. Don't forget the plots must be minimum 6m wide and 0.4Ha in size with maximum size of 5Ha.



**Game Crops in June** – for those who are yet to drill, please hold your nerve! There is no point drilling seed into dry seedbeds unless you have a guaranteed inch of steady rain forecast. The seed will not germinate and is safer in the bag. Most game cover species will produce perfectly good cover if sown into moisture at any time in June/early July so be patient and wait for rain. If you do catch a cloud burst then drill into that moisture and roll it in to ensure the seed has good contact with the moist soil. It should then germinate and emerge rapidly. You have a great opportunity to kill most problem weeds prior to drilling so the crop should get away fast in the warm conditions and not suffer from weed competition.

**WARNING** – please be alert for corvids attacking emerging maize. We have already heard of one 5-acre plot of maize, completely destroyed by rooks. This wasn't our maize so we don't know what seed dressing was on it but please don't assume that, just because your maize has Korit bird repellent, it will be safe from corvids. We would be interested to know what levels of damage customers are seeing compared to Mesurol treated maize?



### **Weeding Your Young Woodlands**

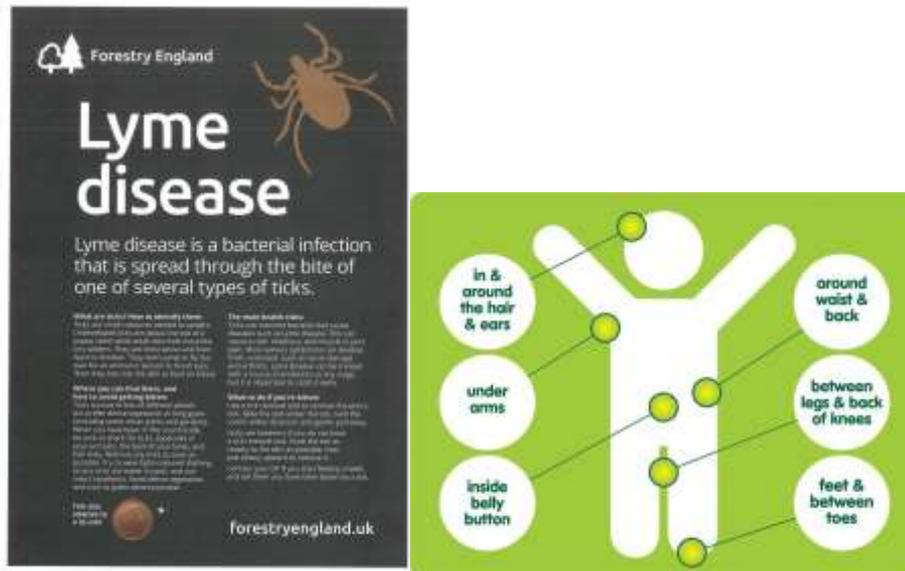
Late spring is the time to commence your annual weed control around your young trees to ensure optimum growing and early establishment potential. See our guidance note on the subject [HERE](#)

### **Woodland Carbon Guarantee**

Farmers and land managers in England can apply for the second auction under this scheme to create new woodlands that help tackle the effects of climate change. [Here's how](#). You need to sign up by 5 June, ahead of the next auction online from 8 to 19 June. Refresh your memory [HERE](#) with our guidance note on the Woodland Carbon Code and the Guarantee.

## Tick Time Again

April - June & September - November are the key months for tick activity and therefore periods where everyone needs to be more vigilant. [Here](#) is a link to Lymes Disease UK website which provides a lot of helpful information.



## UK Wildfire Season is Upon Us

Wildfires are no longer confined to hot countries! Due to changing weather patterns, wildfires are becoming more common in the UK and there have been many in Scotland, Southern England and Wales already this year. These hazardous and potentially deadly occurrences are now on the Government radar as the new Countryside Stewardship Woodland Creation Grant application process requires the applicant to consider them at woodland design stage.

