

**May
June
2022**



Carbon Capture Gardening

Busy times ahead in the allotment – garden.....

May and June are most definitely the busiest times in the allotment – garden as both the soil temperature and the air temperatures warm up. This temperature increase gives us the opportunity to sow plenty of seeds and to start lots of planting work without any fear of frost damaging newly sown seeds and plants..... Follow the progress of this work.....

Sweetcorn ready to be planted out.....



Here you can see our lush looking sweetcorn plants that we have grown direct from seed.....

The seed has been sown in some of the Subway Cambro's which are ideal for this plant because it is always recommended to plant sweetcorn in blocks rather than in straight rows because sweetcorn is wind pollinated.....

When the sweetcorn plants come out of the Cambro's, if you remove the plants carefully, they come out in a block of plants that can then be planted directly into the ground so there is no disturbance of the roots.

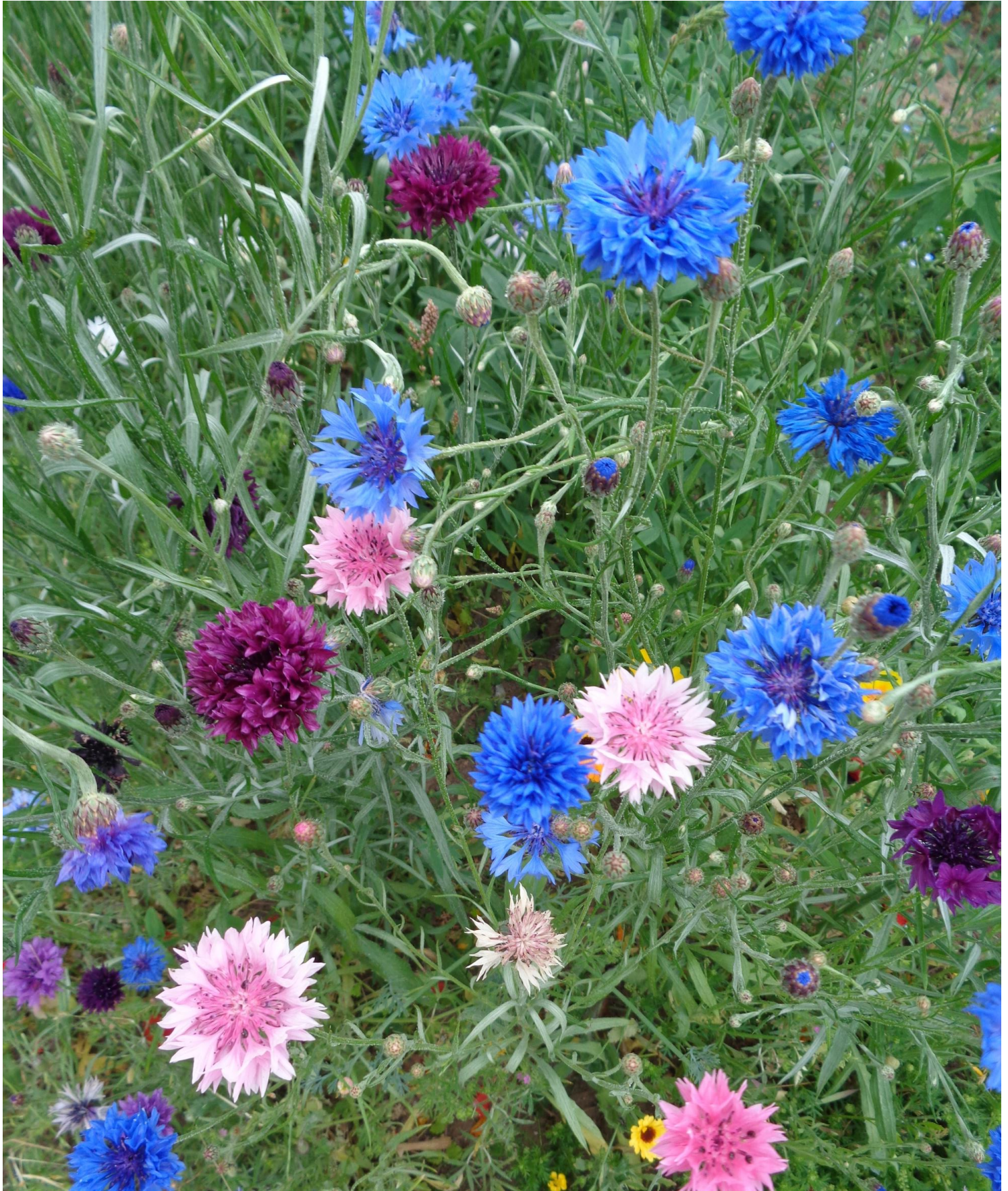
Solitary Bee Nester is filling up.....

Here you can see our Solitary Bee Nester with many of the chambers filling up with eggs that have been laid by the female solitary bees. Usually Mason Bees seal the chambers where they have laid their eggs with mud as you can see here.....
Very clever creatures indeed.....



Wildflowers are giving us some colour.....

In the Echo Eternal Curriculum Garden, we have several areas that we have sown with wildflowers – here you can see lots of cornflowers with various colours..... As well as providing us with plenty of colour, these flowers are so important to our pollinators, as you can see from the previous page, the bees are crucial to growing many of our crops as you will see in the next few pages. So, the more flowers we can provide for these pollinators, then so much the better.....



Outdoor Banana Plant is making good growth.....

Here you can see our outdoor banana plant called Musa Basjoo which is making some really strong healthy growth as it produces some big healthy looking leaves...



Runner Beans are looking good.....

Our runner beans are making some really strong growth – this variety is called Polestar and as you can see the plants are making both lots of growth plus they are also producing lots of flowers which will rely on the bees to pollinate these flowers which will then produce us a healthy crop of beans to harvest.....



Dwarf French Beans are also looking good too.....

Both Runner Beans and Dwarf French Beans produce some strikingly coloured flowers as you can see from the last two photographs, but both of these two varieties of plants need pollinating, so again the bees are also vital for this to happen. The more beneficial flowers that we grow in the garden, then so much the better – essentially we are trying to create a pollinator friendly allotment – garden.



Pumpkin plants have been planted out.....

We have planted up lots of pumpkin plants that have all been grown from seed, these plants have been planted in especially prepared growing areas that have had lots of rich organic matter added to these areas. Below you can see our first pumpkin that has formed, so hopefully there will be many more fruits to come..... Big, heavy pumpkins are always welcome too.....



Subway continue to support our schools growing work



Schools growing work

Growing Boxes are filling up.....

Over the last few weeks we have been busy in the garden planting up lots of our growing boxes and sowing lots of seeds too. Here you can see one of our growing boxes planted up with some Basil Mint plants.....



Poly tunnel is a busy place.....

Here you can see the poly tunnel which is a busy place – here you can see the grape vine in the background, plus there are lots of tomato plants, cucumber plants and aubergine plants all growing really well. Plus, we have our Lemon Verbena growing which smells absolutely divine.....



Echo Eternal Garden is thriving.....

Here is a view across the garden where you can see lots of potatoes growing, carrots, spinach, swiss chard and radishes are also growing. Also, Butternut Squash and Courgettes have just been sown too, so there is plenty growing.....



Flowering Cherry Trees are establishing themselves.....

The twenty flowering cherry trees that were provided by the Holbrooks based Smart Learner Driving School are growing well in the Echo Eternal Curriculum Garden as they establish themselves. Obviously, they will keep growing and will hopefully provide another feature for the garden area.....



Broad Beans are being harvested.....

Here you can see that the Broad Beans are ready to be harvested – this is the one of the first crops that we planted back in the autumn so this is hopefully the start of much more produce that we will be able to harvest in the coming months.....

