

Sedum species in current blankets

Sedum acre

Sedum album 'Bella d' Inverno'

Sedum album 'Coral Carpet'

Sedum ewersii

Sedum kamtschaticum subsp. Ellacombianum

Sedum kamtschaticum var. floriferum 'Weihenstephaner Gold'

Sedum montanum subsp. orientale

Sedum pulchellum

Sedum rupestre (*reflexum*)

Sedum sexangulare

Sedum spurium mesemlanthemum = Delosferma

Sedum spurium mesemlanthemum = hallii

Sedum verticillatum

Ray Stephenson is one of the worlds leading authorities on sedum plants and is the chairman of the Sedum society. He was commissioned by Strodhoff & Behrens last year to produce a study report on sedum species particularly suited to the UK climate, including coastal and exposed sites. This is the basis of the plants currently used within our blankets (although many of these were already being used).

There are currently 13 varieties used (dependent upon seed availability – see above). The mix will vary from blanket to blanket, but we expect at least eight species present in each blanket. The percentage mix of each species is also variable.

Most species are self-propagating, but there are also some that naturally seed and then die afterwards, but will return the following year.

To date, we are the only company with a blanket produced in the UK that is compliant with FLL regulations and that has a BRE certified FAA fire rating. Part of this test is reliant upon a blanket that does not contain too much organic content and sedum species that does not produce too much dead vegetation after flowering. It is the volume of dead vegetation that creates a fire risk in dry weather conditions.

Species develop according to the location. Inevitably, some species will dominate a site more than others and it is to be expected that accordingly some species may not survive long-term. The key to maintaining variety is annual maintenance and fertiliser at the correct time, to keep all species happy.

Notes from Ray Stephensons visit

1. Location – more rainfall in the west of the country than in the east. Irrigation to be considered for east located sites on slopes over 3 degrees.
2. Sedums are salt tolerant (coastal sites)
3. South facing aspects – irrigation for 30 degree slopes and above.