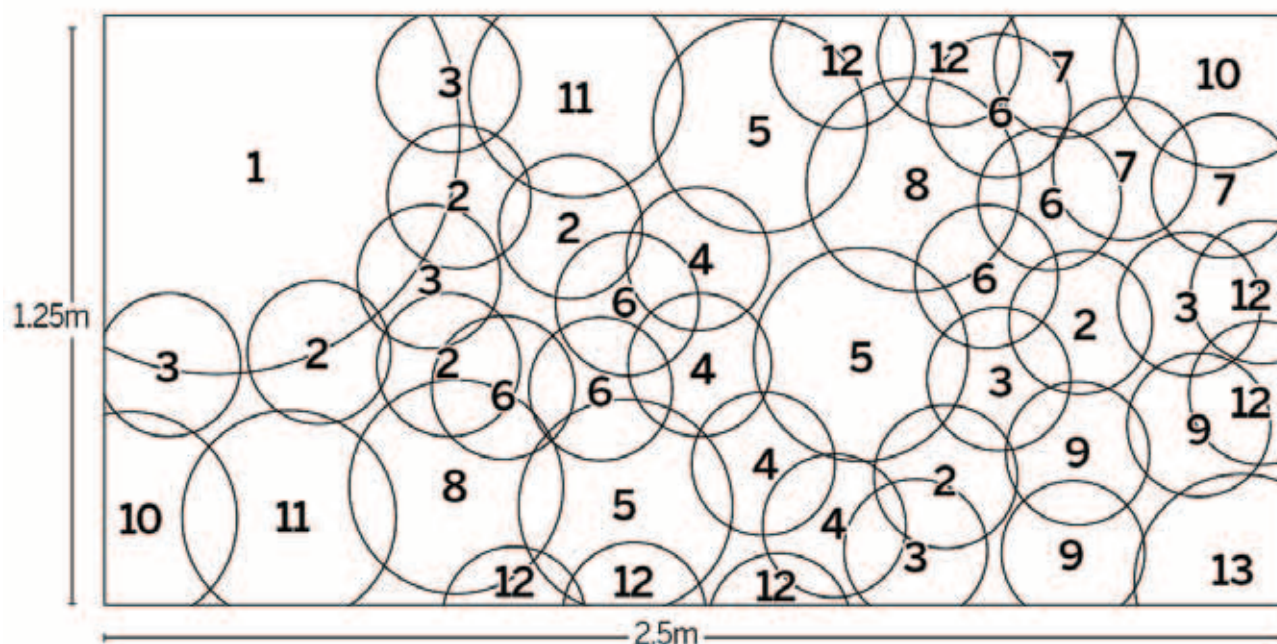


**Herb border** – Jekka McVicar, one of Britain's leading herb growers, creates a compact scheme that's both beautiful and full of flavour – so all you have to do is the planting and the picking. The full feature appears in GARDENS ILLUSTRATED issue 174 June 2011



## Planting Plan & Quantities

- 1 *Angelica archangelica*** (x1) Round umbels of sweetly scented, white-green flowers in early summer. A hardy monocarpic (see main text), it grows up to 2.5m tall.
- 2 *Carum carvi*** (x6) Caraway bears tiny clusters of creamy white flowers in early summer in its second season, above feathery, bright green leaves. Its seeds are used in cooking and its leaves in salads. Hardy biennial; 60cm tall in its second year.
- 3 *Papaver rhoeas*** (x6) The common poppy has large, scarlet flowers in summer; and toothed, lobed green leaves. Its seeds are used in baking. Hardy annual, up to 80cm tall.
- 4 *Perilla frutescens* var. *purpurascens*** (x4) Purple shiso, bears small, pink flowers in spikes all summer; above big, purple, crinkly leaves. Flowers, leaves and seeds are edible. Half-hardy annual; 1m tall.
- 5 *Borago officinalis*** (x3) Borage bears attractive, star-shaped blue flowers all summer; with large, oval, hairy leaves. Hardy annual, up to 60cm tall.
- 6 *Atriplex hortensis* var. *rubra*** (x6) Known commonly as red orach, has dark red leaves; use young ones in salads and cook mature ones like spinach. A hardy annual; self-seeds. Up to 1m tall.
- 7 *Allium schoenoprasum*** (x3) Chives bear purple flowers in late spring. Both flowers and leaves are edible. Hardy perennial, 30cm tall.
- 8 *Foeniculum vulgare* 'Purpureum'** (x2) Bronze fennel has feathery leaves and long stems bearing flat umbels of small yellow flowers, then aromatic seeds. The whole plant is edible. Hardy perennial, up to 2m tall.
- 9 *Hesperis matronalis*** (x3) Sweet rocket bears clusters of night-scented white, pink or purple flowers all summer; over lance-shaped leaves. A hardy perennial, 90cm tall.
- 10 *Salvia officinalis* 'Purpurascens'** (x2) Purple sage has pretty blue flowers in summer and aromatic, oval-textured purple-grey leaves. Leaves and flowers are both edible. Hardy perennial; up to 75cm tall.
- 11 *Artemisia dracunculus*** (x2) French tarragon rarely flowers in the UK, but its leaves have an excellent flavour. Hardy perennial; height 90cm.
- 12 *Viola tricolor*** (x7) Heartsease bears small flowers in summer; over heart-shaped leaves. Use flowers in salads. Hardy perennial, often grown as an annual. 12cm tall.
- 13 *Rosmarinus officinalis Prostratus* Group** (x1) Better known as prostrate rosemary, bears small, pale blue flowers in spring and late summer. Leaves and flowers are both edible. Evergreen shrub, hardy in well-drained soil. Height 30cm, spread 1m.