



Oregon State Beekeepers Association's List of BEE FRIENDLY PLANTS FOR OREGON GARDENS

To help bees and other pollinator insects you should provide a range of plants that will offer a succession of flowers, and thus pollen and nectar, through the whole growing season. Even a small area planted with the right flowers will be beneficial, because each patch will add to the mosaic of habitat available to bees and other pollinators.

Below are two good starting lists of good bee plants, the first of native plants and the second of garden plants. Among the things that you should consider:

- **Use local native plants.** Research suggests native plants are four times more attractive to native bees than exotic flowers. In gardens, heirloom varieties of herbs and perennials can also provide good foraging.
- **Choose several colors of flowers.** Flower colors that particularly attract bees are blue, purple, violet, white and yellow.
- **Plant flowers in clumps.** Flowers clustered into clump of one species will attract more pollinators than individual plants scattered through the habitat patch. Where space allows, make the clumps four feet or more in diameter.
- **Include flowers of different shapes.** Bees are all different sizes, have different tongue lengths, and will feed on different shaped flowers. Consequently, providing a range of flower shapes means more bees can benefit.
- **Have a diversity of plants flowering all season.** By having several plant species flowering at once, and a sequence of plants flowering through spring, summer and fall, you can support a range of bees species that fly at different times of the season.

Native Plants

Native Plants should be your first choice. Listed below are some plants that are good sources of nectar or pollen for bees.

Aster 'Lady in Black'	<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorum</i>	Lupine	<i>Lupinus</i>
Balsamroot	<i>Balsamorhiza</i>	Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus</i>
Bee Balm	<i>Monarda spp</i>	Oceanspray	<i>Holodiscus</i>
Blanketflower	<i>Gaillardia</i>	Oregon grape	<i>Mahonia</i>
Buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum</i>	Penstemon	<i>Penstemon</i>
California poppy	<i>Eschscholzia</i>	Phacelia	<i>Phacelia</i>
Ceanothus, buckbrush	<i>Ceanothus</i>	Rabbitbrush	<i>Chrysothamnus</i>
Clarkia	<i>Clarkia</i>	Rose	<i>Rosa</i>
Currant	<i>Ribes</i>	Serviceberry	<i>Amalanchier</i>
Fireweed	<i>Chamerion</i>	Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos</i>
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago</i>	Sunflower	<i>Helianthus</i>
Gumplant	<i>Grindelia</i>	Willow	<i>Salix</i>
Huckleberry	<i>Vaccinium</i>		

Garden Plants

This list includes plants from other countries and should be used as a supplement to the native plant list. As with the native plants, the list is far from exhaustive.

Bachelor Buttons	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Hardy Sages	<i>Salvia</i>
Basil	<i>Ocimum</i>	Marjoram	<i>Origanum</i>
Black Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia</i>	Mexican sunflower	<i>Tithonia</i>
Borage	<i>Borago</i>	Mint	<i>Mentha</i>
Catnip	<i>Nepeta</i>	Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea</i>
English lavender	<i>Lavandula</i>	Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus</i>
Giant hyssop	<i>Agastache</i>	White Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>