



POLLEN & NECTAR RICH PLANTS FOR YOUR GARDEN BY SEASON

Flowering periods in brackets

P=POLLEN

N=NECTAR

[A] + AUTUMN PLANTING

[S] =SPRING PLANTING

[A/S] = AUTUMN/SPRING PLANTING

Ornamental trees – small .

Winter flowering cherry. *Prunus subhirtella autumnalis* (Nov – Mar) P [S]

Goat / Pussy Willow - *Salix caprea* - (March - April) P [A / W]

Ornamental Almond. *Prunus dulcis* (March) [A]

Magnolia *stellata* (Mar – April) P [A]

Crab apple *Malus x zumi* ‘Golden Hornet’ (April – May)N P [A]

Malus sargentii (April – May) NP [A]

Acer ‘*Atropurpureum*’ (May – Jun) NP [A]

Willow. *Salix. S.hastate* (Feb – Mar) NP [A]

Hedging

Common or Cherry Laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* ‘*Rotundfolia*’ (Apr) NP [A]

P.laurocerasus ‘*Otto Luyken*’ (Apr) NP [A]

Hawthorn. *Crataegus monogyna* (May) NP [A]

Pyracantha coccinea (May June) NP [A]

Portuguese laurel – *Prunus lusitanica* (Jun) NP [A]

Holly – *Ilex aquifolium* (may Jun) NP [A]

Cotoneaster – many choices available – evergreen types good for hedges. *C. damerii* (Jun) NP [A]





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Flowering shrubs - large

Winter Honeysuckle. *Lonicera fragrantissima* (Feb – Apr) NP

Quince. *Chaenomeles speciosa* (Mar – Jun) NP [A]

Cornelian cherry *Cornus mas* (Feb – April) N P [A]

Ceanothus (April – May) NP [A]

Forsythia ovata. (Mar – April) NP [A]

F.x intermedia ‘Beatrix Farrand’ (Mar – April) NP [A]

Lilac – syringa spp. (April – June) NP [A]

Broom/Common Broom. *Cytisus scoparius* (May –June) NP [A]

Escallonia ‘Appleblossom’ (May – Oct) NP [A]

Viburnum plicatum ‘Mariesii’ (May)NP [A]

Viburnum davidii (May – Jun) NP [A]

Orange ball tree. *Buddleia globosa* (May – Jun) N [A]

Cotoneaster – over 100 different ones to choose from:

C. horizontalis (May – Jun) NP [A]

C. microphyllus (May – Jun) NP [A]

Berberis ‘Semperflorens’ (May – June) NP [A]

Berberis x carminea ‘Buccaneer’ (Jun – Jul) NP [A]

Abelia chinensis (Jul- Aug) NP [A]

Abelia ‘Edward Goucher’ (Jul – Sep) NP [A]

Butterfly bush. *Buddleia davidii* (Jul – Sept) N [A]

Myrtle. *Myrtus communis* (Jul – Oct) NP [A]

Shrub Roses.





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Rosa 'Angelina' (Jul – Oct) [A]

Rosa 'Balerina' (Jul – Oct) [A]

Viburnum x bodnantense 'Dawn' (Nov- March) NP [A/S]

Viburnum tinus (Nov – May) NP [A/S]

Mahonia spp (Dec – May) [A/S]

M. x media "Charity" (Dec- March) [A/S]

M. japonica (Jan – March) NP [A/S]

Flowering shrubs -Small/medium

Rosemary. Rosmarinus officinalis (Apr-May) NP [A/S]

Wigelia .florida (May Jun) N [A/S]

Choysya ternata (May – Jun & Aug – Sep) P [A/S]

Rock Rose. (May – Jul) Helianthemum NP

Lavender Lavandula angustifolia (May – Aug) NP

Hebes – many varieties. (Jun – Oct) Hebe 'Blue Gem' N [A/S]

Philadelphus spp. (Jun- July) NP

Deutzia (Jun – Jul) P [A/S]

Potentilla. P. fruticosa (Jun – Nov) NP [A/S]

Rose of Sharon. Hypericum calycinum (Jul – Sep) P [A/S]

Fuschias – numerous. F.macrostemma, F.magellanica (Jun – Aug) NP [S]

Hydrangea.paniculata (Aug – Oct) [A]





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Climbers

Clematis cirrhosa (Dec-Feb) NP [A/S]

Clematis armandii (Apr – May) NP

Hydrangea petularis (May – Jun) NP [A/S]

Clematis x jackmanii (Jul – Oct) [A/S]

Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Aug) NP

Perennials .

Lungwort. Pulmonaria (Jan – May) P [A]

Cranesbill/ Hardy geraniums. Many varieties. (May – Sep) NP [S]

Geranium 'Johnson's Blue', G. ibericum, G. endresii [S]

Geum (May–Sep) NP [S]

Tree mallow. Lavatera arborea (Aug – Sep) NP [S]

Ice plant. Sedum spectabile 'Autumn Joy' (sep-Nov) N [S]

Christmas Rose. Helleborus niger (Dec – April) NP [S]

H. foetidus (Feb – April) NP

Catmint/catnip. Nepeta (Jun – Sep) NP [S]

Michaelmas daisy. Aster (Aug – Oct) [S]

Aster dumosus 'Lady In Blue', A. amellus "Brilliant" [S]

Salvias. S. farinacea (Jun – Nov) NP [S]

Sage. Salvia officinalis (May – Jul) NP [S]

Bell flower. Campanula various (Jul – Sep) NP [S]

Poppies. Papaver various annual and perennial (May – Oct) P [S]

Red Hot Pokers – Kniphofia caulescens (Sep - Oct) NP [S]

Japanese wind flower Anemone x hybrida (Aug – Nov) P [S]





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Annuals

Cosmos (July – Aug) PN [S]

Pansies– Universal range (Sep – May) N [A/S]

Viola – V. cornuta (Apr– Oct) N [A/S]

Sweet violet. V.odorata [A/S]

Hardy Annual Mallow - Lavatera trimestris “Lovliness” ‘Mont blanc’ ‘Silver cup’ Jul – Oct) NP [S]

Bulbs .

Snowdrops – Galanthus nivalis (Jan- Apr) NP [A]

Winter aconite. Eranthis hyemalis (Jan – Feb) NP [A]

Crocus (Feb – April) NP [A]

C. tomasinianus, C. chrysanthus ‘Blue Pearl’ ‘Snow Bunting’

Grape Hyacinth – Muscari (Mar – May) NP [A]

Anemone apinina (Mar – May) P [A]

Wood anemone – anemone nemorosa (Mar – May) P [A]

Chives. Allium schoenoprasum. (Jun – Aug) NP

Allium flatuense (Jun – Jul) NP

Alliums pp.

TREES

Spring - March - May

Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) N P

Cherry. (Prunus spp)

There are many to choose from but avoid double flowered varieties.

Bird Cherry (p.padus) . Long racemes of white flowers

Sour cherry (p. cerasus) Small shrubby tree. Profuse flowers





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Cherry plum (*p. cerasifera*) N P Wide range of cultivars. Some with purple foliage

Wild cherry (Gean) *Prunus avium* N P

Joshino cherry *P. x yeodoensis* small ornamental cherry N P

Chestnuts, Horse chestnuts (*aesculus* spp.)

Large, attractive trees. NP

Aesculus hippocastanum White flowers. Apr–May

A. carnea Red flowers, slightly later. May

Crab Apples

Beautiful medium sized trees. Spring NP

Malus spp & hybrids. Many named varieties: John

Downie, Profusion, Golden Hornet.

Hawthorns

Common, wild, small, shrubby trees May NP Erratic, but can be profuse producers of nectar.

Crataegus oxycantha, *C. monogyna*

C. prunifolia, *C. crus-galli*, and many other species.

Hazels

Early catkins a valuable source of pollen. Mar–Apr P

Corylus avellana, *C. maxima*

Judas Tree

Pretty small tree, purple pea-flowers on bare stems. Apr–May NP

Cercis siliquastrum





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Maples

The decorative Japanese maples rarely flower in the UK, but the larger species are all excellent bee plants. Spring (N)P

Acer campestre Field maple, native tree.

A. macrophyllum Oregon maple.

A. negundo Box elder.

A. opalus Italian maple.

A. platanoides Norway maple.

Mountain Ash

Many other cultivated species.

Sorbus aucuparia Spring NP

Snowdrop tree

Pretty, small tree. Bunches of flowers along branches.

Halesia carolina May NP

Sweet Gum

Liquidambar styraciflua and hybrids. Spring (N)

Sycamore

Valuable nectar source. May NP

Acer pseudoplatanus

Whitebeam

Sorbus aria Common whitebeam. May–Jun NP





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Fruit Trees -

All are good sources of pollen and many are also excellent nectar producers.

Almond

Earliest to flower. Profuse nectar producer.

Prunus dulcis N

Apple

Can be grown as cordons and 'bush' forms suitable for small gardens. Range of varieties, flowering from early April to late May. Good nectar producers.

Malus pumila NP

Cherries

Large trees, good nectar producers.

Prunus cerasus NP

Medlar

Large white flowers.

Mespilus germanica May P

Peach & nectarine

Early flowering, good nectar producer.

Prunus persica N

Pear

Weak nectar, rarely collected.

Prunus communis Mar–Apr P





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Plum

Good nectar source.

Prunus domestica Early Apr NP

Quince

Good nectar source.

Cydonia oblonga Spring NP

Summer - June - August

Chestnuts /Horse Chestnuts

A. indica Indian horse chestnut. Pink flowers. May–Jun

A. californica Buckeye. White/pink flowers. Jul–Aug

Chestnut, Sweet or Spanish

Castanea sativa Jul (N)P

Eucalyptus spp.

Evergreen, aromatic foliage.

Some hardy in the UK. Late summer (N)

E. gunnii, *E. niphophila*, *E. parviflora*.

Eucryphia

Evergreen. Large, beautiful, single white flowers.

glutinosa, *E. nyamansensis* Aug–Sep NP

False Acacia

Robinia pseudoacacia Fragrant white flowers. Jun NP

R. viscosa Clammy locust. Late Jun NP

R. hispida Rose acacia. May-Jun NP





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Golden Rain tree

Large, loose panicles yellow flowers

Koelreuteria paniculata Jul–Aug (N)

Hop tree

Related to *Tetradium*. Aromatic leaves, small white flowers, highly scented. Profuse nectar source.

Ptelea trifoliata Jun–Jul N

Hollies

Evergreen, tiny flowers, attractive to bees. May–Jun NP

Ilex aquifolium, *I. opaca* and spp.

Honey Locust

Long branched spines on trunk,

scented flowers. (N)

Gleditsia tricanthos

Indian Bean Tree

Magnificent, spreading trees with panicles of scented, foxglove-like, speckled flowers. Jul–Aug NP

Catalpa bignonioides, *C. fargesii*, *C. ovata* Jul–Aug NP

June Berry, Snowy mespilus.

Beautiful tree, masses of white flowers in spring, edible fruits in June. Spring (N)P

Amelanchier lamarckii





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Lime

Can supply large quantities of nectar when conditions are right but can be erratic.

Aphids on some species produce honey-dew. (N)

Tilia cordata Small leaved lime. Late Jul

T. x euclora Crimea lime. No honeydew. Jul–Aug

T. x europaea Common lime. Jun–Jul

T. maximowicziana Japanese lime. Jun

T. x orbicularis Hybrid lime. Jul–Aug

T. petiolaris Weeping silver lime. Jul–Aug

T. platyphyllos Broad leaved lime. Jun–Jul

T. tomentosa Silver lime. Jul

Tree of Heaven

Large town tree. Jul–Aug N

Ailanthus altissima

Tulip Tree

Large tulip-like flowers. Jun–Jul (N)

Liriodendron tulipifera

Whitebeam

S. intermedia Swedish whitebeam. Jun NP





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Autumn - September - October

Autumn flowering cherry.

P. subhirtella autumnalis . P

Eucryphia

Evergreen. Large, beautiful, single white flowers.

glutinosa, *E. nyamansensis* Aug–Sep NP

Chinese bee tree

Small tree with strongly scented small white flowers. Profuse nectar source

Tetradium (*Euodia*) *danielli*, (*hupehensis*) Aug–Oct NP

Pagoda tree

Creamy flowers

Sophora japonica Sep NP





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SHRUBS by season

Spring March - May

Chaenomeles spp

Ornamental quinces. Feb–Apr NP

Clematis

C. montana Apr–May NP

Choisya

Evergreen small white scented flowers

ternata 'Mexican Orange Blossom' Apr–Jun P

Cytisus

Wide range of species & hybrids, mostly early flowering.

spp Brooms. NP

Prunus

Evergreen. Also has extrafloral nectaries, very attractive to bees in summer.

P. laurocerasus Cherry laurel. Apr NP

Rhododendron spp

Small varieties of rhododendron & azaleas can be worked by honey bees.

R. ponticum NP

Ribes spp

R. sanguineum Flowering Currant. Pink, red or white flowers. Apr NP

R. odoratum Buffalo Currant, yellow flowers. Apr NP

R. speciosum Red flowers. Apr–May NP





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Rosa spp

Only single flowered types such as wild Dog Roses

R. rugosa. N P

Rosemary.

Evergreen, aromatic herb

Rosmarinus officinalis Apr–May NP

Salix spp

Willows. Numerous small shrubby willows. Good species include:

S. apoda,

S. boydii,

S. hastata,

S. lanata,

S. melanostachys,

S. uva-ursi Early spring NP

Syringa spp & hybrids Lilacs.

Spring NP Wide range of medium & large shrubs, mostly spring flowering, all strongly scented.

Viburnum spp

Wide range of evergreen & deciduous shrubs. Good species include:

V. burkwoodii Evergreen, scented. Apr NP

V. carlesii Scented. Apr NP

V. juddii Scented. Apr–May NP





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Summer June - August

Abutilon

Soft grey/green vine shaped downy leaves, large saucer-shaped flowers, various colours.

vitifolium May–Jul NP

Berberis spp Apr–Jul NP

Wide range of species, all attractive to bees.

Buddleia

a popular shrub

B. alternifolia Long lilac spikes. Jun NP

B. globosa Globular orange flowers. May NP

B. x weyeriana Orange panicles. Jun–Oct NP

***Ceanothus spp**

Wide range of species, all attractive to bees. range from spring to late summer flowering. NP

Cistus spp

Evergreen. Range of colours

Rock roses. May–Jul NP

Clematis spp

Climbers. Most large flowered hybrids only produce pollen.

C. vitalba Traveller's Joy, wild clematis. Jun–Jul NP

Cotoneaster spp

Wide range of good garden plants. Loved by all Pollinators Jun NP





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Deutzia spp

Very pretty free flowering shrubs. - Summer P

***Escallonia spp & hybrids**

Wide range of good garden plants. Evergreen. - NP

Eschscholtzia spp

Unusual lovely shrubs, mint-scented leaves, flowers various colours. Good nectar producer. - Late summer–autumn N

Fuchsia

Naturalised in S & W. Free-flowering.

*F. magellanica Late summer N

***Hebe spp**

Wide range of sizes from dwarf to large, evergreen, flowering periods vary from Early to late Summer NP

Helianthemum spp & hybrids

Sun roses. P Evergreen dwarf shrubs, many colours.

Hydrangea

Only those varieties with fertile florets are used by bees, not the showy sterile ones (Hortensia).

H. petiolaris Climber. Jun NP

H. paniculata and H. villosa Late summer NP

Kalmia spp

Calico Bush Evergreen, acid soils.

K. angustifolia

K. latifolia Jun NP

Kolkwitzia amabilis

May–Jun NP Uncommon shrub, easy to grow, beautiful drooping bell-shaped flowers.





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Lonicera spp

Honeysuckles. Shrubby honeysuckles have smaller more open flowers, with more available nectar than the climbing varieties. Some flower late winter.

L. angustifolia

L. standishii

L. purpusii NP

Myrtle

Evergreen, fragrant flowers.

*Myrtus communis Late summer (N)P

Olearia spp

Daisy bushes.

O. haastii White flowers. Jul–Aug NP

O. macrodonta Jun NP

Virginia creeper.

Parthenocissus quinquefolia Aug NP

Perovskia

Aromatic grey foliage & purple/blue flowers. Excellent bee plant.

Perovskia atriplicifolia Aug–Sep NP

Philadelphus spp

Large number of species and varieties, most strongly scented.

Mock Orange. Jun–Jul NP





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Potentilla

Many varieties & hybrids. Small shrubs, white or yellow flowers. Long flowering period.

P. fruticosa NP

Portuguese laurel.

Evergreen. Racemes of heavily scented cream flowers

Prunus lusitanica June NP

Pyracantha Firethorn.

P. angustifolia, *P. coccinea* May–Jun NP

Symphoricarpos spp

Snowberries. Most produce copious amounts of nectar.

S. alba

S. occidentalis

S. orbiculatus

S. Rivularis Jun–Aug NP

Tamarix spp

May–late summer NP

Feathery foliage, profuse masses of tiny, pink flowers. Varying flowering times from May to late summer.

Ulex Gorse.

Long flowering periods.

U. europaeus, *U. minor* P





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Viburnum spp

Wide range of evergreen & deciduous shrubs. Good species include:

V. opulus Guelder rose. Jun–Jul NP

Weigela & hybrids

Pink, red or white flowers.

W.florida May–Jun N P

Autumn September - October

Clethra alnifolia

Acid soils. Aug–Oct P

Eschscholtzia spp

Late summer–autumn N

Unusual lovely shrubs, mint-scented leaves, flowers various colours. Good nectar producer.

Hedera

Climber, evergreen. Good source of late nectar.

helix Ivy. NP

Winter November - February

Clematis

Evergreen, small bell-like flowers

C.cirrrosa. Dec–Feb (N)P

Genista spp

Wide range of garden varieties.

Gorses. Early NP





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Mahonia spp

Evergreen shrubs with yellow flowers. Valuable pollen source early in the year.

M.aquifolium,

M. bealei,

M. japonica,

*M. lomariifolia Winter/spring P

Viburnum spp

Wide range of evergreen & deciduous shrubs. Good species include:

V. bodnatense,

V.fragrans Winter NP

V. tinus

V.laurustinus Evergreen. Oct–Mar P

