

## Some general notes for planting for pollinators

***Flower Shape & Colour:*** Bees see UV light, so flowers with UV nectar guides (often invisible to us) are attractive; blue, yellow, and violet are popular. Simple, open-faced, or tubular flowers (like Foxgloves) are great for easy access.

***Flowering Season:*** A species mix ensures food throughout the year, from early spring (willow, crocus, hellebore) to late summer/autumn (goldenrod, sedum).

***Plant in Drifts:*** Bees prefer large patches (approx. 3ft+) of the same flower to save energy during foraging.

## Flowering plants

### **Snowdrops**

January to March

### **Crocus**

February to March & Autumn

### **Primula**

January to May

### **Dandelion**

March to October

### **Bluebells**

April to May

### **Geum species**

April/May to October

### **Legumes**

late May or June into  
August/September

### **Scabious**

July to September

### **Knapweed**

June to September

### **Fuchsia**

June - November

### **Geraniums**

March until October

### **Wallflowers**

Mid summer onwards

### **Poppies**

May to July / or  
August to September

### **Alliums**

Spring & early  
summer

### **Verbena**

June to September

### **Clover**

May to September

### **Buddleja**

June /July through to  
October

### **Rudbeckia**

July to October

### **Abelia - "bee-bush"**

May/June - October

### **Heathers**

July – November & Dec -  
May

## Climbers & Herbs

### **Roses**

(late May to early autumn)

### **Honeysuckle**

(June to September)

### **Sweet peas**

(June and July)

### **Bramble/blackberry**

(June to September)

### **Clematis**

(Possible all year!)

### **Ivy**

(September to November)

### **Rosemary**

(April - June)

### **Chives**

(May - August)

### **Comfrey**

(May - August)

### **Thyme**

(Late May / June – August)

### **Catmint**

(May - September, mainly June - July)

### **Sage**

(June-August)

### **Lavender**

(June - September)

### **Mint**

(Summer / July – September)

### **Oregano**

(July - September)

### **Achillea** /yarrow

(June – September/October)

## Trees/shrubs

Hawthorn/blackthorn

Willow/Hazel/Cornus

Apples

Cherry/plums

Oak

Lime

Sycamore

Vacciniums, *Ribes* (currants) & raspberry (*rubus*)

Mahonia (*M japonica*, *M aquifolium*, *M x media*)

Thorny Olive (*Elaeagnus pungens*)

Hebes - Paula, Celebration,  
Autumn glory, Red edge,  
Midsummer beauty