

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)	Rosemary (April - June)	Sage (June-August)
Honeysuckle (June to September)	Chives (May - August)	Lavender (June - September)
Sweet peas (June and July)	Comfrey (May - August)	Mint (Summer / July – September)
Bramble/blackberry (June to September)	Thyme (Late May / June – August)	Oregano (July - September)
Clematis (Possible all year!)	Catmint (May - September, mainly June - July)	Achillea /yarrow (June – September/October)
Ivy (September to November)		

Trees/shrubs

Hawthorn/blackthorn	Hebes - Paula, Celebration, Autumn glory, Red edge, Midsummer beauty
Willow/Hazel/Cornus	
Apples	
Cherry/plums	
Oak	
Lime	
Sycamore	
Vacciniums, <i>Ribes</i> (currants) & raspberry (rubus)	
Mahonia (<i>M japonica</i> , <i>M aquifolium</i> , <i>M x media</i>)	
Thorny Olive (<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>)	