

PLANTS FOR BEES

N= NECTAR, P= POLLEN

Trees

Willows (many species)	P, N
Maples	P, N
Redbud (eastern)	P, N
Black Locust	P, N
Apple	P, N
Cherry (wild, sour)	P, N
Tulip Poplar	P, N
Linden, Basswood	P, N
Golden Rain Tree	P, N
Holly	P, N
Sourwood	P, N
Sumac	P, N
Ailanthus	P, N
Invasive, bitter honey	

Shrubs

Amelanchier (Serviceberry)	P
Boxwood	P, N
Cotinus (smoke tree)	N
Cotoneaster (many types)	P, N
Erica (heath)	P, N
Witch Hazel	P
Lavender	P, N
Clethra	P, N
Mock Orange	P, N
Pyracantha	P, N
Vitex	P, N
Spicebush	P, N
Alder	P
Autumn & Russian Olives	P, N
highly invasive	

Bulbs, Etc.

Allium	P, N
Anemone	P
Chionodoxa	P, N
Colchicum	P, N
Lily-of-the-Valley	P
Crocus	P
Dahlia	P, N
Winter Aconite	P, N
Fritillaria	N
Snowdrop	P, N
Hyacinth	P, N
Scilla	P, N
Tulip	P

Perennials

Yarrow (<i>Achillea</i>)	N
Thrift (<i>Armeria</i>)	P, N
Asters (many kinds)	P, N
Bellflower (<i>Campanula</i>)	P, N
Cornflower (<i>Centaurea</i>)	N
Chrysanthemum (some)	P
Coreopsis	P, N
Gaillardia (blanket flower)	P, N
Hellebore (Christmas Rose)	N
Heuchera (coral flower)	N
Lupin	P
Monarda (bergamot, bee balm)	N
Evening primrose	P
Oriental Poppy	P
Penstemon	N
Rudbeckia	N
Scabiosa	N
Sedum	N
Mullein	P, N
Veronica (speedwell)	P, N

Annuals, Biennials

Hollyhock	P, N
Calendula	P, N
Canterbury bell	P, N
Clarkia	P, N
Cleome (spider flower)	N
Cosmos	N
Ornamental gourds	P, N
Dianthus	N
Godetia	P, N
Sunflowers (annual)	P, N
Mallow	P, N
Statice	N
Flax	P, N
Lobelia	N
Phacelia	P, N

Herbs

Anise hyssop	N
Chives (allow to bloom)	P, N
Borage	P, N
Mints (allow to bloom)	N
Basil	N
Marjoram	N
Sage	N
Savory	N
Thyme	N

Comments

"Weeds"

Burdock	P, N
Brassicas	P, N
wild mustards, yellow rocket	
Old Man's Beard	P, N
Teasel	N
Ground Ivy	P, N
Hawkweed	P, N
Dead nettle, henbit	P, N
Birdsfoot Trefoil	P, N
White Dutch clover	P, N
English Ivy	P, N
Poison Ivy	P, N
Passion flower	P, N
Ragweed	P
White, Yellow Sweet Clover	N
roadsides as weeds	
Skunk Cabbage	P
Dandelion	P, N
Milkweed	N
Thistles	P, N
Purple Loosestrife	P, N
highly invasive	
Spotted Knapweed	P, N
highly invasive	
Boneset	P, N
Joe Pye Weed	P, N
Ironweed	P, N
Wingstem	P, N
<i>Bidens</i> spp.	P, N
many species	
Goldenrod	P, N

Crops

Strawberry	P, N
Blackberry	P, N
Raspberry	P, N
Blueberry	P, N
mostly a bumble bee plant	
Corn	P
Broccoli (allow to bloom)	P, N
Squash (all kinds)	P, N
Pumpkin	P
Melons (all kinds)	P
Cucumber	P
Soy beans (some cultivars)	P, N
Alfalfa (allow to bloom)	P, N
Buckwheat	P, N
Crimson clover	P, N
Apples	P, N

Soil type, weather, sun, shade will affect both nectar and pollen production of all plants. In addition various cultivars of garden plants can differ in their production of nectar and pollen, as well as attractiveness to bees.

You may find bees visiting some of your garden plants not listed here. If you find one then grow it!

Sometimes during dearth periods bees will visit flowers that normally would not be that desirable.

Tomatoes and green peppers will not be visited by honey bees but need bumble bee "buzz" pollination.

Bee plants will be visited not only by honey bees but also by small "pollen bees," bumble bees and by some wasps.

It takes 2 million blossoms for honey bees to make one pound of honey.

Lists compiled by Ann W. Harman