

# 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

<b>Winter flowering cherry</b>	Prunus subhirtella autumnalis (Nov – Mar) P [S]
<b>Goat / Pussy Willow</b>	Salix caprea - (March - April) P [A / W ]
<b>Ornamental Almond</b>	Prunus dulcis (March) [A]
<b>Magnolia</b>	stellata ( Mar – April) P [A]
<b>Crab apple</b>	Malus x zumi ‘Golden Hornet’ (April – May)N P [A]
<b>Malus</b>	sargentii (April – May) NP [A]
<b>Acer</b>	‘Atropurpureum’ (May – Jun) NP [A]
<b>Willow.</b>	Salix. S.hastate (Feb – Mar) NP [A]

## Hedging

<b>Common or Cherry Laurel</b>	Prunus laurocerasus ‘Rotundifolia’ (Apr) NP *A+ P.laurocerasus ‘Otto Luyken’ (Apr) NP *A+
<b>Hawthorn</b>	Crataegus monogyna (May) NP [A]
<b>Pyracantha</b>	coccinea (May June ) NP [A]
<b>Portuguese laurel</b>	Prunus lusitanica (Jun) NP [A]
<b>Holly</b>	Ilex aquifolium (may Jun) NP [A]
<b>Cotoneaster</b>	many choices available – evergreen types good for hedges. C. damerii (Jun) NP [A]

## Flowering shrubs - large

<b>Winter Honeysuckle</b>	Lonicera fragrantissima (Feb – Apr) NP
<b>Quince</b>	Chaenomeles speciosa (Mar – Jun) NP [A]
<b>Cornelian cherry</b>	Cornus mas (Feb – April) N P [A]
<b>Ceanothus</b>	( April – May) NP [A]
<b>Forsythia</b>	ovata (Mar – April) NP [A] F.x intermedia “Beatrix Farrand’ (Mar – April) NP [A]
<b>Lilac</b>	syringa spp. ( April – June) NP [A]
<b>Broom/Common Broom</b>	Cytisus scoparius (May –June) NP [A]
<b>Escallonia</b>	‘Appleblossom’ (May – Oct) NP [A]

<b>Viburnum</b>	plicatum 'Mariesii' (May) NP *A+ davidii ( May – Jun) NP [A]
<b>Orange ball tree</b>	. Buddleia globosa (May – Jun) N [A]
<b>Cotoneaster</b>	over 100 different ones to choose from: C. horizontalis (May – Jun) NP [A] C. microphyllus (May – Jun) NP [A]
<b>Berberis</b>	'Semperflorens' (May – June) NP [A] b x carminea "Buccaneer" (Jun – Jul) NP [A]
<b>Abelia</b>	chinensis (Jul- Aug) NP [A] 'Edward Goucher' (Jul – Sep) NP [A]
<b>Butterfly bush</b>	Buddleia davidii (Jul – Sept) N [A]
<b>Myrtle</b>	Myrtus communis (Jul – Oct) NP [A]
<b>Shrub Roses</b>	Rosa 'Angelina' (Jul – Oct) [A] Rosa 'Balerina' (Jul – Oct) [A]
<b>Viburnum</b>	x bodnantense 'Dawn' (Nov- March) NP [A/S] x tinus ( Nov – May) NP [A/S]
<b>Mahonia spp</b>	(Dec – May) [A/S] M. x media "Charity" (Dec- March) [A/S] M. japonica (Jan – March) NP [A/S]

## Flowering shrubs -Small/medium

<b>Rosemary</b>	Rosmarinus officinalis (Apr-May) NP [A/S]
<b>Wigelia</b>	florida (May Jun) N [A/S]
<b>Choysya ternate</b>	( May – Jun & Aug – Sep) P [A/S]
<b>Rock Rose</b>	(May – Jul) Helianthemum NP
<b>Lavender</b>	Lavandula angustifolia (May – Aug) NP
<b>Hebes</b>	many varieties. (Jun – Oct) Hebe 'Blue Gem' N *A/S+
<b>Philadelphus</b>	spp. (Jun- July) NP
<b>Deutzia</b>	(Jun – Jul) P [A/S]
<b>Potentilla</b>	P. fruticosa (Jun – Nov) NP [A/S]
<b>Rose of Sharon</b>	Hypericum calycinum (Jul – Sep) P [A/S]
<b>Fuschias</b>	numerous. F.macrostemma, F.magellanica (Jun – Aug) NP [S]
<b>Hydrangea</b>	paniculata (Aug – Oct) [A]

## Climbers

<b>Clematis</b>	cirrrosa (Dec-Feb) NP [A/S] armandii ( Apr – May) NP x jackmanii (Jul – Oct) [A/S]
<b>Hydrangea</b>	petularis (May – Jun) NP [A/S]
<b>Parthenocissus</b>	quinquefolia (Aug) NP

## Perennials

<b>Lungwort</b>	Pulmonaria (Jan – May) P [A]
<b>Cranesbill/ Hardy geraniums</b>	Many varieties. (May – Sep) NP [S] Geranium ‘Johnson’s Blue’ , G.ibericum, G. endresii *S+
<b>Geum</b>	(May–Sep) NP [S]
<b>Tree mallow</b>	Lavatera arborea (Aug – Sep) NP [S]
<b>Ice plant</b>	Sedum spectabile ‘Autumn Joy’ (sep-Nov) N [S]
<b>Christmas Rose</b>	Helleborus niger (Dec – April) NP [S] H. foetidus (Feb – April) NP
<b>Catmint/catnip</b>	Nepeta (Jun – Sep) NP [S]
<b>Michaelmas daisy</b>	Aster (Aug – Oct) [S]
<b>Aster</b>	dumosus ‘Lady In Blue’, A.amellus “Brilliant” *S+
<b>Salvias</b>	S.farinacea (Jun – Nov) NP [S]
<b>Sage</b>	Salvia officinalis (May – Jul) NP [S]
<b>Bell flower</b>	Campanula various (Jul – Sep) NP [S]
<b>Poppies</b>	Papaver various annual and perennial (May – Oct) P [S]
<b>Red Hot Pokers</b>	Kniphofia caulescens ( Sep - Oct)NP [S]
<b>Japanese wind flower</b>	Anemone x hybrida (Aug – Nov) P [S]

## Annuals

<b>Cosmos</b>	( July – Aug) PN [S]
<b>Pansies</b>	Universal range (Sep – May) N [A/S]
<b>Viola</b>	V. cornuta (Apr– Oct) N [A/S]
<b>Sweet violet</b>	V.odorata [A/S]
<b>Hardy Annual Mallow</b>	Lavatera trimestris “Lovliness” ‘Mont blanc’ ‘Silver cup’ Jul – Oct) NP [S]

## Bulbs

<b>Snowdrops</b>	Galanthus nivalis ( Jan- Apr) NP [A]
<b>Winter aconite</b>	Eranthis hyemalis (Jan – Feb) NP [A]
<b>Crocus</b>	(Feb – April) NP [A] C. tomasinianus, C. chrysanthus ‘Blue Pearl’ ‘Snow Bunting’
<b>Grape Hyacinth</b>	Muscari (Mar – May) NP [A]
<b>Anemone</b>	apinina (Mar – May) P [A]
<b>Wood anemone</b>	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  
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

**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

## Fruit Trees - Spring - March - May

**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

<b>Pear</b>	Weak nectar, rarely collected.	<i>Prunus communis</i> Mar–Apr P
<b>Plum</b>	Good nectar source.	<i>Prunus domestica</i> Early Apr NP
<b>Quince</b>	Good nectar source.	<i>Cydonia oblonga</i> Spring NP

## TREES Summer - June - August

<b>Chestnuts /Horse Chestnuts</b>	<i>A. indica</i> Indian horse chestnut. Pink flowers. May–Jun <i>A. californica</i> Buckeye. White/pink flowers. Jul–Aug	
<b>Chestnut, Sweet or Spanish</b>	<i>Castanea sativa</i> Jul (N)P	
<b>Eucalyptus spp.</b>	Evergreen, aromatic foliage. Some hardy in the UK. Late summer (N)	
	<i>E. gunnii</i> , <i>E. niphophila</i> , <i>E. parviflora</i> .	
<b>Eucryphia</b>	Evergreen. Large, beautiful, single white flowers. <i>glutinosa</i> , <i>E. nyamansensis</i> Aug–Sep NP	
<b>False Acacia</b>	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> Fragrant white flowers. Jun NP <i>R. viscosa</i> Clammy locust. Late Jun NP <i>R. hispida</i> Rose acacia. May-Jun NP	
<b>Golden Rain tree</b>	Large, loose panicles yellow flowers	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> Jul–Aug (N)
<b>Hop tree</b>	Related to <i>Tetradium</i> . Aromatic leaves, small white flowers, highly scented. Profuse nectar source. <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i> Jun–Jul N	
<b>Hollies</b>	Evergreen, tiny flowers, attractive to bees. May-Jun NP	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i> , <i>I. opaca</i> and spp.
<b>Honey Locust</b>	Long branched spines on trunk, scented flowers. (N)	<i>Gleditsia tricanthos</i>
<b>Indian Bean Tree</b>	Magnificent, spreading trees with panicles of scented, foxglove-like, speckled flowers. Jul–Aug NP <i>catalpa bignonioides</i> , <i>C. fargesii</i> , <i>C. ovata</i> Jul–Aug NP	
<b>June Berry, Snowy mespilus</b>	Beautiful tree, masses of white flowers in spring, edible fruits in June. Spring (N)P <i>Amelanchier lamarckii</i>	
<b>Lime</b>	Can supply large quantities of nectar when conditions are right but can be erratic. Aphids on some species produce honey-dew. (N)	
	<i>Tilia cordata</i> Small leaved lime. Late Jul	<i>T. x euclora</i> Crimea lime. No honeydew. Jul–Aug
	<i>T. x europaea</i> Common lime. Jun–Jul	<i>T. maximowicziana</i> Japanese lime. Jun
	<i>T. x orbicularis</i> Hybrid lime. Jul–Aug	<i>T. petiolaris</i> Weeping silver lime. Jul–Aug
	<i>T. platyphyllos</i> Broad leaved lime. Jun–Jul	<i>T. tomentosa</i> Silver lime. Jul
<b>Tree of Heaven</b>	Large town tree. Jul–Aug N	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
<b>Tulip Tree</b>	Large tulip-like flowers. Jun–Jul (N)	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
<b>Whitebeam</b>	<i>S. intermedia</i> Swedish whitebeam. Jun NP	

## TREES Autumn - September - October

<b>Autumn flowering cherry</b>	<i>P. subhirtella autumnalis</i> . P	
<b>Eucryphia</b>	Evergreen. Large, beautiful, single white flowers.	<i>glutinosa</i> , <i>E. nyamansensis</i> Aug–Sep NP
<b>Chinese bee tree</b>	Small tree with strongly scented small white flowers. Profuse nectar source <i>Tetradium (Euodia) danielli</i> , ( <i>hupehensis</i> ) Aug–Oct NP	
<b>Pagoda tree</b>	Creamy flowers	<i>Sophora japonica</i> Sep NP

## SHRUBS by season Spring March - May

<b>Chaenomeles</b> spp	Ornamental quinces. Feb–Apr NP
<b>Clematis</b>	C. montana Apr–May NP
<b>Choisya</b>	Evergreen small white scented flowers      ternata ‘Mexican Orange Blossom’ Apr–Jun P
<b>Cytisus</b>	Wide range of species & hybrids, mostly early flowering.      spp Brooms. NP
<b>Prunus</b>	Evergreen. Also has extrafloral nectaries, very attractive to bees in summer. P. laurocerasus Cherry laurel. Apr NP
<b>Rhododendron</b> spp	Small varieties of rhododendron & azaleas can be worked by honey bees. R. ponticum NP
<b>Ribes</b> 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
<b>Rosa</b> spp	Only single flowered types such as wild Dog Roses      R. rugosa. N P
<b>Rosemary</b>	Evergreen, aromatic herb      Rosmarinus officinalis Apr–May NP
<b>Salix</b> spp	
<b>Willows</b>	Numerous small shrubby willows. Good species include: S. apoda, S. boydii, S. hastata, S. lanata, S. melanostachys, S. uva-ursi Early spring NP
<b>Syringa</b> spp & <b>hybrids Lilacs</b>	Spring NP Wide range of medium & large shrubs, mostly spring flowering, all strongly scented.
<b>Viburnum</b> 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

## SHRUBS by season Summer June – August

<b>Abutilon</b>	Soft grey/green vine shaped downy leaves, large saucer-shaped flowers, various colours. vitifolium May–Jul NP
<b>Berberis</b>	spp Apr–Jul NP      Wide range of species, all attractive to bees.
<b>Buddleia</b>	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
<b>*Ceanothus</b> spp	Wide range of species, all attractive to bees. range from spring to late summer flowering. NP
<b>Cistus</b> spp	Evergreen. Range of colours      Rock roses. May–Jul NP
<b>Clematis</b> spp	Climbers. Most large flowered hybrids only produce pollen. C. vitalba Traveller’s Joy, wild clematis. Jun–Jul NP

<b>Cotoneaster</b> spp	Wide range of good garden plants. Loved by all Pollinators Jun NP
<b>Deutzia</b> spp	Very pretty free flowering shrubs. - Summer P
<b>*Escallonia</b> spp & hybrids	Wide range of good garden plants. Evergreen. - NP
<b>Eschscholtzia</b> spp	Unusual lovely shrubs, mint-scented leaves, flowers various colours. Good nectar producer. - Late summer–autumn N
<b>Fuchsia</b>	Naturalised in S & W. Free-flowering. *F.magellanica Late summer N
<b>*Hebe</b> spp	Wide range of sizes from dwarf to large, evergreen, flowering periods vary from Early to late Summer NP
<b>Helianthemum</b> spp & hybrids	Sun roses. P Evergreen dwarf shrubs, many colours.
<b>Hydrangea</b>	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
<b>Kalmia</b> spp	Calico Bush Evergreen, acid soils. K. angustifolia K. latifolia Jun NP
<b>Kolkwitzia amabilis</b>	May–Jun NP Uncommon shrub, easy to grow, beautiful drooping bell-shaped flowers.
<b>Lonicera</b> spp	
<b>Honeysuckles</b>	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
<b>Myrtle</b>	Evergreen, fragrant flowers. *Myrtus communis Late summer (N)P
<b>Olearia</b> spp	Daisy bushes. O. haastii White flowers. Jul–Aug NP O. macrodonta Jun NP
<b>Virginia creeper</b>	Parthenocissus quinquefolia Aug NP
<b>Perovskia</b>	Aromatic grey foliage & purple/blue flowers. Excellent bee plant. Perovskia atriplicifolia Aug–Sep NP
<b>Philadelphus</b> spp	Large number of species and varieties, most strongly scented. Mock Orange. Jun–Jul NP
<b>Potentilla</b>	Many varieties & hybrids. Small shrubs, white or yellow flowers. Long flowering period. P. fruticosa NP
<b>Portuguese laurel</b>	Evergreen. Racemes of heavily scented cream flowers Prunus lusitanica June NP
<b>Pyracantha Firethorn</b>	P. angustifolia, P coccinea May–Jun NP
<b>Symphoricarpos</b> spp	Snowberries. Most produce copious amounts of nectar. S. alba S. occidentalis S. orbiculatus S. Rivularis Jun–Aug NP
<b>Tamarix</b> spp	May–late summer NP Feathery foliage, profuse masses of Tiny, pink flowers. Varying flowering times from May to late summer.
<b>Ulex Gorse</b>	Long flowering periods. U.europaeus, U. minor P
<b>Viburnum</b> 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

### **SHRUBS by season 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

### **SHRUBS by season 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

**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

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