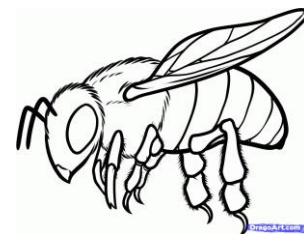


BEE-FRIENDLY GARDENING – What to plant and other tips



We can't live without honeybees. Many crops of vegetables, fruit and flowers depend heavily on pollination by bees - it is estimated that without bees we would lose two thirds of our food. Bee numbers are diminishing; they struggle to cope with new diseases, decline of sources of nectar and pollen, and pesticides. However, gardeners and owners of lifestyle blocks can do a lot to help bees - and their gardens - to thrive.

Common garden plants that provide nectar or pollen or both to honeybees:

HERBS

Angelica
Anise
Basil
Bergamot (Bee balm)
Borage
Calamint
Catmint (Catnip)
Chives
Comfrey
Coriander
Cowslip
Echinacea
Fennel
Hyssop
Lavender
Lemon balm
Marjoram
Mint (all types)
Oregano
Pennyroyal
Rocket
Rosemary
Sage
Summer savory
Thyme (all types)
Winter savory

ANNUALS

Alyssum
Asters
Calliopsis
Chamomile
Coreopsis
Cornflower
Cosmos
Echium Blue Bedder
French marigold
Meadowfoam
Mignonette
Nasturtium
Phacelia
Poppies (all types)
Rudbeckia
Salvia
Scabiosa
Sweet William
Sunflower Evening Sun
Sweet peas
Zinnias

PERENNIALS

Agastache
Aquilegia
Buttercups
Cardoon
Clematis
Crocuses
Dahlia
Delphinium
Eryngium (Sea holly)
Foxglove
Geraniums
Globe thistle
Heleniums
Hollyhocks
Hyacinth
Lysimachia Beaujolais
Penstemons
Phlomis (Lemon puffs)
Roses
Rudbeckia
Scabiosa
Sedum

VEGETABLES

Flower heads of:

Beans, peas
Brassicas all types
Carrots, parsnips
Cucumber
Leeks, garlic
Pumpkin, squash
Zucchini

FRUIT

Berry fruit (raspberry, currants)
Pip fruit (apple, pear...)
Stone fruit (plum, peach, apricot, nectarine...)
Hazelnuts

Provide water and food; plant bee-friendly plants:

- Plant a variety of bee-friendly plants to provide food throughout the season.
- Provide fresh, spray-free water in a shallow dish with clean gravel.

Take care with the use of pesticides/insecticides:

- Don't use sprays in your garden, especially pesticides and insecticides.
- Or if you have to spray:
 - * Avoid systemic insecticides that enter the sap of the plants.
 - * Avoid garden products (sprays, coated seed etc) that contain: **neonicotinoids, acetamprid, imidacloprid, thiacloprid and thiamethoxam**
 - * Avoid spraying when flowers, shrubs, trees are in bloom.
 - * Don't spray plants that bees are foraging on.
 - * Spray late in the evening when bees have gone back to the hive.

Take care of swarms – call a beekeeper to collect them.

- Contact the Southland Bee Society or Environment Southland

More info from: www.nba.org.nz - www.treesforbeesnz.org -

Southland Bee Society www.southlandbeesociety.nz

E: info@southlandbeesociety.nz - Murray Christensen - M: 027 721 1448

Common native plants that provide nectar or pollen or both to honeybees:

Common name	Botanical name	Flowering season	Mature size	Growth rate	Source of Nectar, Pollen	Good for Shelter, Riparian
Bush lawyer	<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	Aug-Oct	Vine	Slow	N + P	
Cabbage tree	<i>Cordyline australis</i>	Oct-Dec	17m	Slow	N	S, R
Corokia	<i>Corokia</i> many species	Oct-Feb	3m	Med	N	S, R
Clematis	<i>Clematis paniculata</i>	Aug- Oct	Vine	Slow	N	
Five finger	<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	July-Sep	6m	Fast	N	S, R
Flax	<i>Phormium</i> many species	Oct-Jan	3m	Slow	N	S, R
Hebe	<i>Hebe</i> over 100 species	Sep-Apr	varies	Fast	N + P	
Hinau	<i>Elaeocarpus dentatus</i>	Oct-Nov	10m	Slow	N + P	
Horoeka (lancewood)	<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	Jan-April	15m	Slow	N + P	S, R
Horopito (pepperwood)	<i>Pseudowintera sp.</i>	Aug-Dec	2 - 8m	Slow	N	
Kamahi	<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>	Nov-Jan	20m	Slow	N + P	S
Kanuka	<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Nov-Feb	15m	Slow	N + P	S
Fuchsia (kotukutuku)	<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>	Aug-Dec	10m	Slow	N + P	
Kowhai	<i>Sophora</i> several specie	Aug-Oct	12m	Slow	N + P	S, R
Lacebark	<i>Hoheria</i> several species	Apr-May	12m	Med	N	S, R
Manuka incl. ornamental hybrids	<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Nov-Apr	12m	Med- Fast	N + P	S, R
Mahoe (whiteywood)	<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	Nov-Feb	10m	Med	N + P	S, R
Matagouri	<i>Discaria toumatou</i>	Oct-Jan	6m	Slow	N + P	
Matai (black pine)	<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>	Oct-Nov	15m	Slow	P	
Marble Leaf	<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	Dec-Jan	6m	Med	N + P	S, R
Mingimingi	<i>Coprosma propinqua</i>	Sep-Nov	6m	Slow	N	S, R
Ngaio	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	Sep-Dec	10m	Slow	N + P	
Olearia	<i>Olearia</i> many species	Dec-April	6m	Fast	N + P	S, R
Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum</i> many species	Aug-Nov	8m	Med	N + P	S, R
Poataniwha	<i>Melicope simplex</i>	Sep-Nov	4m	Med	N + P	S, R
Pokaka	<i>Elaeocarpus hookerianus</i>	Oct-Jan	8m	Med	N + P?	S, R
Prickly mingimingi	<i>Leptecophylla juniperina</i>	?	2m	Med	N + P?	S, R
Rata	<i>Metrosideros umbellata</i>	Jan	20m	Slow	N + P	
Raukawa	<i>Raukawa edgerleyi</i>	Sep-Dec	10m	?	N + P?	S, R
Ribbonwood	<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	Sep-Oct	15m	Fast	N + P	S, R
Rimu	<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	Sep-Oct	30m	Slow	P	
Seven finger	<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	Feb-Mar	8m	Med	N + P?	S, R
Supplejack	<i>Ripogonum scandens</i>	Nov-Jan	Vine	Slow	N	
Three finger	<i>Pseudopanax colensoi</i>	Oct-Mar	5m	Fast	N + P	S, R
Totara	<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Sep-Oct	15m	Slow	P	
Weeping matipo	<i>Myrsine divaricata</i>	Jun-Nov	3m	Med	N + P?	S, R
Wineberry	<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>	Oct-Dec	8m	Fast	N + P	S, R

Some non-native shrubs & trees good for honeybees:

Bottlebrush (*Callistemon sp.*)
 Cherry blossom (*Prunus sp.*)
 Tree mallow (*Lavatera sp.*)
 Strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*)
 Tree lucerne (tagasaste)

Willow (*Salix sp.*) – but don't plant crack willow
Viburnum lantana and *V.opulus* (snowball tree)
 Gum (*Eucalyptus sp.*)
 Horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)
 Leatherwood (*Eucryphia cordifolia*)