

POLLINATORS OF B.C.

Female bees are the most important pollinators in our region. Bees collect pollen and nectar to feed their offspring, so they visit more flowers per unit time and are more likely to contact and move pollen than other flower visitors...but any animal that visits a flower has the potential to be a pollinator! Almost 90% of flowering plants need pollinators to reproduce, so bees are important for ecosystem stability.

Bumble Bees

- Social (have queens + workers)
- Ground-nesters, need existing holes
- Spring, Summer, early Fall



Sweat Bees

- Solitary to Semi-social
- Ground-nesters
- Spring and summer



Hairy-Belly Bees

- Solitary
- Cavity- or Ground-nesters
- Masons in spring, use mud
- Leafcutters summer, use leaves



Mining Bees

- Solitary
- Ground-nesters
- Mostly spring



Honey Bees

- Highly Social
- Non-native, managed bees



Others

- Flies, wasps, butterflies, beetles, and birds can all be pollinators



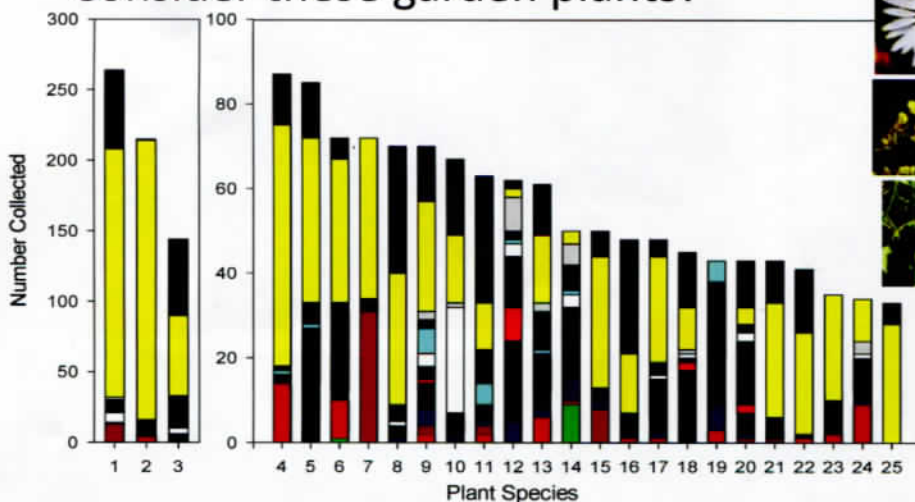
Gardening for Bees!

Like all animals, pollinators need two things: food and homes. Different bees make nests in different places and all need pollen and nectar to eat and to feed their young.

Pollinator-friendly gardens will:

- Have flowers blooming over a long period of time
- Include flowers of different colours, shapes, and sizes
- Never use insecticides!

Consider these garden plants!



- Green Metallic bee (*Agapostemon*)
- Mining Bee (*Andrena*)
- Carder Bee (*Anthidium*)
- Small Carpenter Bee (*Ceratina*)
- Sweat Bee (*Halictus*)
- Small Mason Bee (*Hieridae*)
- Sweat Bee (*Lasioglossum*)
- Leafcutter Bee (*Megachile*)
- Cuckoo Bee (*Nomada*)
- Mason Bee (*Osmia*)
- Other Bees
- Bumble Bee (*Bombus*)
- Honey Bee (*Apis*)

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| 1: Lavender (<i>Lavandula</i>) | 14: Calendula |
| 2: Rhododendron | 15: Sage (<i>Salvia</i>) |
| 3: White Clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>) | 16: Escallonia |
| 4: Cotoneaster | 17: Cranesbill (<i>Geranium</i>) |
| 5: Heather (<i>Erica</i>) | 18: Mint (<i>Mentha</i>) |
| 6: California lilac (<i>Ceanothus</i>) | 19: English daisy (<i>Bellis perennis</i>) |
| 7: Purple toadflax (<i>Linaria purpurea</i>) | 20: Oregano (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>) |
| 8: Bachelor's buttons (<i>Centaurea</i>) | 21: Rosemary (<i>Rosmarinus</i>) |
| 9: Thyme (<i>Thymus</i>) | 22: Borage (<i>Borago</i>) |
| 10: Bellflower (<i>Campanula</i>) | 23: Lily-of-the-valley shrub (<i>Pieris</i>) |
| 11: Forget-me-not (<i>Myosotis</i>) | 24: Shubby veronica (<i>Hebe</i>) |
| 12: Aster | 25: Blackberry/raspberry (<i>Rubus</i>) |
| 13: Yellow mustard (<i>Brassica</i>) | |

Native plant species that are good for pollinators

