



A GUIDE TO

# Pollinator Friendly Plants



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# Pollinator Friendly Plants

This list has been put together using a range of reliable sources including those from the All Ireland Pollinator Plan, various British and Irish gardening books and using my own landscape horticultural work experience.

Herbaceous/Alpines	Season	Colour	Flower type	Butterfly/bee
Achillea N & G	July-Sept	Mix	flat	
Angelica N			flat	
Armeria N & G		Pink/Whites	tube	
Agastache G			Lipped	
Ajuga sps N & G		Blues	Lipped	
Aubrietia G	Apr-June	Mix		Bt
Allysum		Yell	cluster	
Erygium G	July-Aug	blue	Tube	Bm
Echinops G	July-Aug	blue	Tube	Bm
Dahlia G	Jun-Oct	Mix	Open cup	
Campanula G & N	Apr-Aug	mix	Bell	
Echium G		Blues/mauves		Bm
Cranesbill N & G	Apr-Sept	Mix	Open cup	Bm
Primula	Spr	Mix		Bt Bm
Erysimum	Sum	Reds/Mauves		Bt
Helleborus	Win-Spr	W/Pinks/Mauv	Open cup	
Eupatorium N & G		Mauve	Flat	
Gaillardia	May-June	Y/O/R	Cup	
Lamium G & N		W/P	Lipped	
Helianthemum	Summer	Mix		
Pulmonarias	Spring	Pinks/Blues/W		Bm
Silenes N & G	Summer			
Scabious N & G	Summer			
Thistle group N & G	Spr-Aut			
Centaurea N & G	May-Sept			
Viola N & G	Spr-Sum			
Verbascum N & G	Jun-Aug			
Daisy Family N & G	Spr-Aut			
Sedum N & G		Pinks/mauves		Bt
Dianthus G	Summer	P/W		Bt
Verbena N & G				Bt
Salvias G				
Aquilegia G				
Digitalis N & G				
Borage Family				
Nepeta				
Bergenia				
Iberis				
Euphorbia				
Bugle Ajuga N & G				

**N** = Native    **G** = Garden variety    **Bt** = particularly good for butterflies    **Bm** = particularly good for bees

Annuals	Season	Colour	Flower type	Butterfly/bee
Ageratum	Summer	Blue/mauve		
Allyssum	Summer	White		
Bacopa	Summer	W/M/P		
Bidens	Summer	Y/R/O		
Santivalia	Summer	Y		
Viola/pansy	Jan-Dec	mix		
Nemesia	Summer	mix		
Diascia	Summer	Mix		
Nasturtium	Summer	Mix		
Herbs	Season	Colour		
Mix	April - Sept	Mix		
Bulbs	Season			
Alliums	May-July			
Crocus	Mar			
Bluebells	May			
Muscari	Mar-Apr			
Colchicum	Sept-Oct			
Shrubs	Season			
Berberis G				
Buddleia G				
Chaenomeles G				
Caryopteris G	July-Aug			
Hebe G	May-Oct			
Erica/Callunas N & G	Summer/			
Winter				
Fuchsia G				
Viburnum N & G				
Ribes G				
Cornus				
Rosa N & G				
Cotoneaster	May-Winter			
Mahonia	Jan-Apr			
Lonicera				
Salix N & G				
Native Shrubs	Season	Colour		
Guelder rose	June-July	w		
Broom G & N	Apr-Jun	Y + mix		
Elder G & N	Jun-July	W		
Gorse	Jan-Dec	Y		
Spindle		W		
Privet	May-July	W		
Hazel	Feb-March			
Willow N & G	Feb-April	W/silver/		
Bramble N	July-Sept	W/mauve/pink		

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Trees				
Mountain Ash N & G				
Whitebeam N & G				
Hawthorn N & G				
Blackthorn				
Wild Cherry				
Crab Apple N & G				
Holly N & G				
Buckthorn				
Climbers				
Ivy N				
Roses - single flwr				
Honeysuckle N & G				
Hydrangea petiolaris G				
Clematis single flwr				
Solitary Bees				
Toadflax family				
Pea family				
Erica				
Mint Family				
Larval Food For Butterflies				
Cabbage family				
Nettles				
Violets				
Holly				
Bird's foot trefoil				
Vetches				
Devil's bit scabious				
Wild native grasses				

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## Herbaceous perennials & Alpines

### Echinops

**Echium** - Excellent for bees and long flowering – good on dry bare ground

**Dahlias** - Single open flower

**Bergenia** - Elephant ears, with evergreen leaves

### Calendula

**Primula sps Bt** (avoid double varieties)

**Erysimum** - Perennial wallflower Bt - short lived (take cuttings)

**Helleborus** - Good for early emerging queen bees in Spring

**Eupatorium** - Hemp agrimony

### Gaillardia

**Lamium (dead nettle)** - Native and garden varieties Bm

**Helianthemum**- Rock rose

**Pulmonarias shade tolerant & Comfreys** -Good in the veg garden

**Silene** - red campion

**Scabious group** native and non-native

**Thistle group especially for Painted Lady Bt**

**Viola Bt** - perennial and annuals

**Kniphophia** - red hot poker

**Verbascum** - good for Bt

**Daisy type flowers are good all rounders** - think easy access to nectar: Asters, erigeron, Echinacea, etc

### Valerian Bt

**Sedum group** - ground covers and taller varieties

**Dianthus** - sweet William Bt

### Verbena

**Wild native grasses** - important for the Brown Bt

## Shrubs

**Viburnum opulus** - guelder rose - native,

**Viburnum davidii** is low growing and spreads out

**Rosa sps** - single open flower

**Chaenomeles** - quince

**Berberis** - many varieties including small low growing Spring flowers Bm

### Caryopteris

**Buddleia both davidii and globose**, great for butterflies

**Ribes** - flowering currant

**Hebe** - shrubby veronica - many varieties

**Myrtle** - large shrub loved by bees, late flowering

**Heathers! Watch your soil type** - Erica darleyensis and carnea ok in alkaline soils - Winter/Spring flowers - deep pinks and purples best

## Hedgerow plants

Hawthorn May/June

Blackthorn March/April

Honeysuckle July/September

Dog rose July

Willow Feb/March

### Hazel Jan/Feb

**Ivy** - vital for last feed for most pollinators in late Autumn

### Holly May

### Oak

### Sorbus June

### Crab apple April

**Ground flora** 'in the ditch' e.g. viola, yarrow, knapweeds, vetches, willowherbs, foxgloves etc

## Larval food of butterflies

### Wildflowers in the cabbage family:

- Cuckoo flower/Lady's smock Cardamine sps
- Wild garlic mustard Alliaria
- Sweet rocket / Dame's violet Hesperis sp

## Nettles

**Bird's foot trefoil** for the Blue bt

Also the wild vetches e.g. kidney vetch

Lunaria Honesty Orange tip butterfly

### Myosotis Forget me not

**Viola sps** esp Dog violet for fritillary butterfly

**Ilex holly tree** esp for Holly blue Bt

**Devil's Bit Scabious** - marsh fritillary



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## A pollinator friendly business

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