



PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS

Some tips for choosing garden plants that will benefit pollinating insects

Choose Single flowers

Single flowers are generally those that look more simple and less 'fancy'. Lots of flower varieties have been bred by humans to look good, this normally means they aren't good for pollinators. They have lots of extra petals which stop insects reaching the nectar. These are known as 'Double flowers'

Single flowers



Double flowers



Native or Not?

Many native plants are excellent for pollinators, however there are also lots of beneficial non-natives. For examples lavender and borage (which is particularly good because it replenishes nectar quickly). Just make sure non-native plants don't spread out of your garden. Scientist have found that plants from the Northern hemisphere tend to be better.

Lavender



Borage



Avoid bedding plants

Even though bedding plants, like pansies, petunias and busy lizzies look nice and are easy to grow, they usually don't have much, if any, nectar. This means no food for pollinators.

Pansy



Busy Lizzie



Petunia



Weeds are wonderful

Many plants that people think of as 'weeds' are actually great for pollinators. For example dandelions, brambles and nettles. Let your grass grow and leave a wild corner.

Dandelion



Nettle



Bramble

