

Honey Bee Forage Plants for Backyard Gardens in Northern NM

Herbs:

Alliums *Allium* (various). Summer bloom. Perennial. Water thrifty to moderate water.

Anise Hyssop *Agastache foeniculum*. Mid summer bloom. Three-foot erect narrow, short-lived perennial with spikes of light blue flowers. Delightful anise scent.

Basil *Ocimum basilicum*. Many varieties: Lemon, Genovese, Anise, Thai and others. Tender annual herb. Aromatic leaves. Good companion plant with tomatoes. Likes regular garden soil and water.

Borage *Borago officinalis*. Annual. Blue flowers in summer. Regular garden soil and water.

Catmint *Nepeta x faassenii*. Early summer bloom, purple flowers, long bloom. Low water.

Comfrey *Symphytum officinale*. Tall perennial with mauve, white or blue flowers in drooping clusters, blooms spring to early summer. Likes some moisture. An excellent nectar source.

Fennel *Foeniculum vulgare*. A highly scented and flavorful annual herb, produces large umbels of pale yellow flowers in late summer. Needs regular garden soil and water.

Germander *Teucrium aroanium*. Perennial ground cover, with honey-scented lavender flowers blooming in summer. Drought tolerant.

Horehound *Marrubium vulgare*. A perennial herb & wildflower, member of the mint family, spreading 3 ft tall and 4 foot wide, blooms all summer.

Hyssop *Hyssop officinalis*. Perennial, 2-3 ft tall. Flowers blue-violet, pink, white, small, tubular in spike. Blooms early to late summer.

Lamb's Ears *Stachys byzantina*. Perennial, mats of fuzzy, soft silver leaves sprout 1.5 ft tall spikes of pinkish purple flowers in late spring, early summer, spreads easily.

Lavender *Lavandula* (various). Late spring to summer bloom, depending on type. Fragrant flowers, about 2 ft x 2 ft. Full sun and low water. Perennial, lives about 5 years.

Lemon Balm *Melissa officinalis*. A lemon-scented member of the mint family. Perennial with small white flowers blooming in summer. Prefers moist soil and partial shade.

Marjoram *Oreganum majoricum*. Perennial fragrant herb with small white flowers borne in clusters in summer, drought tolerant.

Rosemary *Rosmarinus officinalis*. Arp is the variety that is cold-hardy (with protection) in Santa Fe. Upright evergreen aromatic shrub 3-4 ft tall, with small blue blossoms in early summer. Low water once established.

Mints *Mentha (various)*. A hardy perennial, grows to 1 ft, spreads easily, prefers partial shade and a moist well-drained soil.

Nasturtium *Tropaeolum (various)*. Annual, easy from seed in good garden soil with moisture, various rich colored edible flowers, pretty green leaves, to 1 ft tall.

Thyme *Thymus (various)*. Many varieties, some creeping, others tiny dense rounded shrubs, most have aromatic leaves blooming in late spring.

Winter Savory *Satureja Montana*. Perennial to 1 ft tall, with tiny flowers from July to September, tolerates drought.

Flowers:

Aster (various). **Purple Aster:** *Aster bigelovii*. Profusely branched annual or biennial to 3 feet. Becomes a solid mound of lilac flowers in the fall. Plant seeds anytime, early fall is best. Water for more abundant flowering.

Bachelor's Buttons *Centaurea Cyanus*. Annual with blue, white and pink flowers. Full sun, average water, reseeds itself readily

Blanket Flower *Gaillardia (various)*. Delicate red & yellow annual daisy. Blooms all summer, native.

Blue Flax *Linum Lewisii*. Easy, perennial to 2 ft. Small blue flowers open every morning and fade in the afternoon. Easy to start from seed. Likes sun or part shade.

California poppy *Eschscholzia californica*. Annual. Yellow-orange flowers in late spring. Full sun and sandy well-drained, poor soil

Crocus Early spring bloom, various colors available, drought tolerant

Globe thistle *Echinops*. Blue flowering perennial, full sun, summer bloom, drought tolerant

Purple Cone Flower *Echinacea*. Drought tolerant perennial various colors, summer bloom

Rocky Mountain Bee Plant *Cleome serrulata*. Native annual pink to purple pink flowers in summer, drought tolerant

Rocky Mountain Penstemon *Penstemon Strictus*. Perennial with blue/purple flowers in late spring, drought tolerant.

Russian Sage *Perovska atriplicifolia*. Perennial 4-5 ft tall, shrub-like with long-blooming spikes of blue flowers in summer and late summer. Drought tolerant.

Sages *Salvia (various)*. Some are native, some with fragrant foliage. Spikes of blue, purple, raspberry or red flowers, summer blooming to 3 ft tall, drought tolerant.

Scarlet Globemallow *Sphaeralcea coccinea*. Low spreading perennial with orange saucer-shaped flowers in late summer, very drought tolerant.

Bushes, Shrubs, Hedges & Vines

Abelia	<i>(various)</i>
Blue Mist Spirea	<i>Caryopteris x clandonensis</i>
Bush Cherry	<i>Prunus tomentosa</i>
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster apiculatus</i>
Desert Willow	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>
Fern bush	<i>Chamaebatiaria millefolium</i>
Firethorn	<i>Pyracantha koidzumii</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex (various)</i>
Lignonberry	<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaee</i>
Linden Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>
Manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos pungens, Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
Mock Orange	<i>Philadelphus (various)</i>
Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>
Pussy Willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>
Raspberry	<i>Rubus (various)</i>
Snowberry	<i>Gaultheria hispida</i>
Spice bush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Thimbleberry	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>
Winter Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>

Small Trees

Chaste Tree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>
Cherry	<i>Prunus sp.</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>
Lilac	<i>Syringa (various)</i>
Mexican Alder	<i>Alnus oblongifolia</i>
Plum, Apricot trees	<i>Prunus (various)</i>
Quince	<i>Chaenomeles superba</i>
Redbud	<i>Cercis Canadensis, Cercis occidentalis</i>
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>
Silverbell Tree	<i>Halesia tetraptera var. monticola</i>

Trees

Apple	<i>Malus domestica</i>
Basswood (American Linden)	<i>Tilia Americana var. heterophylla</i>
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Golden Raintree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>
Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
Maples (Red, Silver, Sugar etc.)	<i>Acer (various)</i>
New Mexico Locust	<i>Neomexicana</i>
Willows	<i>Salix (various)</i>