

Below is an incomplete list of wild and commercially-available plants that provide prolonged-blooming bee pasture in the Southeast. It is important for bees, especially bumble bees, to have an unbroken succession of bloom all season to build up their local populations. If you want to encourage large bee populations, consider growing an assembly of plants from this list so that bloom is more or less continuous. It is important to choose bee pasture plants that are rich in nectar and pollen, easy to grow, cost-effective, non-invasive, long-blooming, and do not bloom at the same time as the crop. Plants in the table are listed in chronological order of their average first month of bloom

### Plants for prolonged-blooming bee pasture in the Southeast

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Availability</b>	<b>Resource (nectar or pollen)</b>	<b>Bloom Dates</b>
Chickweed	<i>Stellaria</i> spp.	ann. or per. herb	feral	n,p	much of the year
Cucumber	<i>Cucumis sativa</i>	ann. herb	cultivated	n,p	much of the year
Pumpkin	<i>Cucurbita</i> spp.	ann.	cultivated	n,p	much of the year
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.	shrub	cultivated, feral	n,p	January-June
Maple	<i>Acer</i> spp.	tree	feral	n,p	January-May
Cantaloupe	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	ann. herb	cultivated	n,p	February-August
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> spp.	bien. or per. herb	feral	n,p	February-September
Dead Nettle (Henbit)	<i>Lamium</i> spp.	ann. or per. herb	feral, ornamental, invasive	p	February-October
Elm	<i>Ulmus</i> spp.	tree	feral	n,p	February-April
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus</i> spp.	shrub, tree	feral	n,p	February-June
Peach	<i>Prunus persica</i>	tree	cultivated	n,p	February-April
Pine	<i>Pinus</i> spp.	tree	cultivated, feral	p	February-April
Willow	<i>Salix</i> spp.	tree	feral	n,p	February-June
Apple	<i>Malus</i> spp.	tree	cultivated	n,p	March-May
Ash	<i>Fraxinus</i> spp.	tree	feral	p	March-May
Blackberry	<i>Rubus</i> spp.	shrub	cultivated, feral	n,p	March-June
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	tree	feral	n,p	March-June
Cherry (cultivated and uncultivated)	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	tree, shrub	cultivated, feral	n,p	March-May
Cottonwood	<i>Populus</i> spp.	tree	feral	p	March-May
Gallberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	shrub	feral	n,p	March-June

Oak	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	tree	feral	p	March-May
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	tree	cultivated, feral	n,p	March-June
Plum (cultivated)	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	tree	cultivated	n,p	March-April
Rape (Canola)	<i>Brassica napus</i>	ann. herb.	cultivated oilseed	n,p	March-May
Redbud	<i>Cercis</i> spp.	shrub, tree	feral, ornamental	n,p	March-May
Tupelo	<i>Nyssa</i> spp.	tree	feral	n,p	March-June
Alsike Clover	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	per. herb	cultivated forage	n,p	April-September
Corn	<i>Zea maize</i>	ann.	cultivated	p	April-September
Crimson Clover	<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	ann. herb	cultivated forage	n,p	April-June
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus</i> spp.	shrub, tree	feral, ornamental	n,p	April-July
Holly	<i>Ilex</i> spp.	shrub, tree	feral, ornamental	n,p	April-June
Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	tree	feral	n,p	April-June
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera</i> spp.	shrub	feral	n,p	April-August
Horsemint (Bee Balm)	<i>Monarda</i> spp.	ann. or per. herb	feral, ornamental	n,p	April-October
Huckleberry	<i>Gaylussacia</i> spp.	shrub	feral	n,p	April-June
Marigold	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	ann.	feral, ornamental	n,p	April-October
Pear	<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	tree	cultivated, ornamental	n,p	April-May
Privet	<i>Ligustrum</i> spp.	shrub	feral, ornamental	n,p	April-July
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	short-lived per.	cultivated forage	n,p	April-September
Sage	<i>Salvia</i> spp.	ann. or per. herb, shrub	ornamental	n,p	April-May
Sweet Clover (White, Yellow)	<i>Melilotus</i> spp.	bien. herb	cultivated forage	n,p	April-October
Thistles	<i>Cirsium</i> spp.	ann., bien., or per. herb	feral	n,p	April-October
Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	tree	feral	n,p	April-June
Vetch	<i>Vicia</i> spp.	ann. or bien.	Cultiv. forage	n,p	April-Sept.

White Clover (White Dutch, Ladino)	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	per.	cultivated forage	n,p	April-October
Alfalfa	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	per. herb	cultivated forage	n,p	May-October
Aster	<i>Aster</i> spp.	per. herb	feral	n,p	May- November
Grape	<i>Vitis</i> spp.	per. vine	cultivated	n,p	May-July
Raspberry	<i>Rubus</i> spp.	shrub	feral	n,p	May-June
Sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	tree	feral, ornamental	n,p	May-July
Watermelon	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	ann.	cultivated	n,p	May-August
Anise Hyssop	<i>Agastache</i> spp.	per. herb	feral, ornamental	n,p	June- September
Basswood	<i>Tilia</i> spp.	tree	feral	n,p	June-July
Buckwheat	<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i>	herb	cultivated	n,p	June-frost
Cotton	<i>Gossypium</i> spp.	ann. herb	cultivated	n,p	June- September
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia</i> spp.	per. herb, shrub, tree	feral, ornamental	n,p	June-October
Lespedeza (Bush Clover)	<i>Lespedeza</i> spp.	per. herb, shrub	feral, ornamental	n,p	June-October
Lima Bean	<i>Phaseolus lunatus</i>	herb	cultivated	n,p	June-July
Milkweed	<i>Asclepias</i> spp.	per. herb	feral	n	June-August
Mint	<i>Mentha</i> spp.	per. herb	cultivated, feral, ornamental	n	June- September
Sunflower	<i>Helianthus</i> spp.	ann. or per. herb	cultivated ornamental and oilseed, feral	n,p	June- November
Vitex (Chaste Tree)	<i>Vitex</i> spp.	shrub, tree	ornamental	n,p	June-July
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago</i> spp.	per. herb	feral	n,p	July-November
Ragweed	<i>Ambrosia</i> spp.	herb	feral, often noxious	p	July-October
Soybean	<i>Glycine max</i>	ann. Herb	cultivated	n,p	July-October
Strawberry	<i>Fragaria x ananassa</i>	per. herb	cultivated,feral	n,p	December-May

Almonds

Citrus

Fruit Trees

Sourwood

Black Locust vs. Honey Locust

Oaks – honeydew

Maples

Vegetables

Green Beans, Watermelons, Cantelope, Squash, Pumpkin, Strawberries, Sweet Corn, Rape or Canola

Other plants

Buckwheat

Holly

Butterfly bush

Sedum

Henbit

Goldenrod (aster family)

Clovers - Red, White, Yellow Sweet, Crimson

Kudzu

Vetch – hairy or wild – white