

Trees for Bees

Rock Bridge Trees

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Trees and shrubs are an important food source for bees, supplying both pollen and nectar at critical times of the year for bee health and vigor.

All bloom periods are approximate, depending on the weather and where you live.

We begin the year with wind pollinated trees.

February- March

Willows, Elms, Soft Maple, Red Maple, Silver Maple

Bees gather pollen from these when temperatures rises enough to be active.

Maples provide some nectar. Running maple sap is a sugar source.

It is available on days when the night time temperature is below 32degrees and the daytime is above 32 degrees.

April

Redbuds, Dogwoods, Oaks and Hickories

Redbud trees are an excellent nectar source, Dogwoods not so much.
Oaks and Hickories are wind pollinated but are a readily available pollen source,
no nectar.

May

Black Locust, Tulip Poplar, Ohio Buckeye, Southern Catalpa, late May Persimmon
Shrubs, Privet (invasive) non-native,

All are heavy nectar producers; Tulip Poplar is a good pollen source.

Non-native is not always invasive

June

Chestnut, Northern Catalpa, Linden, Tree Lilac

Shrubs, Summer sweet, can bloom in full shade.

Chestnut is a good pollen source. Catalpa is a nectar source.

Linden has heavy nectar flow.

July-August

Sourwood, BeeBee, Vitex

Shubs Glossy Abelia

Sourwood blooms from July into August.

Bee Bee and Vitex the same with sporadic bloom till frost.

All are heavy nectar producers.

Honey flow depends on the number of flowers available.

Shrubs: Abelia blooms till frost and bees love the flowers.

They can be worked into any landscape.

September

Seven Sons Tree

This tree blooms September through October and is pretty through November and is fragrant.

Flowering trees are available throughout the Honeybees year and are an important component of hive health and honey production