

pollen only
pollen + nectar
buzz pollinated plant (see below)
star bee plant

## How many flowers do bees need?

The more the merrier!

As a guideline, aim for the abundant flowering of three sources of pollen and three sources of nectar at any time.

## Why pollen and nectar?

Bees need nectar for energy and pollen for protein. Without this they cannot reproduce.

## When do bees need food?

Different species are active at different times of the year.

Expect bees to be present in your garden between late winter and late autumn.

## Why native plants?

More than half of the ~ 300 local native bee species do not use introduced plants.

All bees will use native plants, and local native plants are best.

## Buzz pollinated plants for native bees

Many native bees can get pollen out of buzz pollinated plants. But introduced honey bees cannot handle the flowers, so by planting these plants, you provide pollen exclusively for native bees.

However, buzz pollinated plants provide pollen only, so make sure to have nectar sources available as well.

# Blue banded bees



Are generalists and will visit buzz pollinated plant species, vegetables such as tomato and introduced garden plants like salvia, borage and basil, the long-flowering, buzz pollinated Solanum rantonetti and Hibbertia scandens, as well as the nectar producing Duranta erecta and English lavender.

# Grasses..

Grasses do not provide any food for bees. However, native grasses can attract butterflies to your garden.