

Wildlife friendly shrubs through the year

These shrubs are especially attractive to insects, and often to birds in autumn.

D = deciduous, E = evergreen. | Look for bee logo in shops.

Month	Name	Notes	Position	Colour
January	Winter honeysuckle D Winter heather E	Very sweet scented. Prune after flowering to control size. 1-2m Erica Carnea and Darlyensis don't need peat. Long flowering season.	Open. Open	White White or purple-pink.
February	Japonica D Winter flowering jasmine D	Good trained against wall. Fruits with quinces. Starts in November. Clothes walls. Prune after flowering	Half shade/sun Half shade/sun	Glowing Red / pink. Yellow.
March	Flowering Currant (Ribes) D Mexican Orange blossom E.	Scent very attractive to bees. Prune for shape and size. 1-2 m. 0.6 metre cube. Prune to shape. Repeat flowering.	Half shade/ sun Sunny.	Deep pink. White
April	Ceanothus horizontalis E Berberis darwinii and thunbergia	Long season. Prune flower stems, not the trunk. 1.5m. Varieties. Bright coloured, often tiny holly leaved. Berries and shelter great for birds. Often prickly.	Half shade/sun Sunny.	Powder blue Orange or yellow.
May	Escallonia Rubra E Native cherry D	Very bee friendly. Dense structure gives birds nest sites and shelter. Good for hedging. Fertile soil. Try small varieties. Can train to keep small.	Full sun	White /deep pink/ red
June	Lavender D Broom	0.5 m. Makes great low hedge. Prune after flowering. Shorten in Autumn to keep compact. Up to 2 m. Sunny. Likes poor sandy soil. Deadhead. Bees/ moths.	Full sun	Shades of purple. Bright yellow
July	Buddleia davidii E Honeysuckle D. Hebe. Hebe franciscana	Very butterfly friendly. Deadhead. Prune late winter. Scented. Cut out third of oldest shoots in spring. Train to support. Choose ones with bee logo. Long season. Prune after flowering.	Sunny/Half shade Full sun	Purples / white Various creamy mixes White, blues, purples
August	Abelia E Rosa Rugosa	Long season, scented. 1.5 m cube. Butterflies and moths. June to October. Prune to control. Open petalled deeply scented rose with orange hips later for birds. Can be used for low hedges. 0.6 m.	Sunny Sunny	Pink and white Deep pink or white.
September	Lavatera D	1.5 m. Prune hard to 15-30 cm in March. Long season from June	Sunny.	Pink or white

October	Fuchsias D	Try Happy wedding Day .5 m. or Lady's eardrops 1.3 m, hedging. Prune hard in November.	Half shade/sun	White. Also, reds, pinks purples.
November	Mahonia Charity	Scented sprays of flowers. Good berries for birds. Strong grower so prune to control after flowering.	Sunny/Half shade	Lovely yellow
December	Clematis Freckles	Train over arches and trellises, or walls. Fairly hardy. Very bee friendly	Half shade or sun.	Purple spots on white