

Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

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Naturally, it's also important to plant pollen plants to attract the pollinators and help them thrive, which in turn helps our gardens grow. Did you know that bee pollinators provide one of every three bites we take? Honeybees have been disappearing in record numbers and butterflies have also suffered significant population declines. It is essential to eliminate pesticides and insecticides while planting flowers of varied shapes to bring the bees and butterflies.

Here are pollinator plants that can easily be grown from seed. Plant them as succession plants for three seasons of enjoyment that will also support a range of bee and butterfly species.

For Early Blooms:

Baby Blue Eyes
California Poppy
Chives
Clover
Larkspur
Lupine
Osteospermum
Pea
Poppy
Viola

For Mid-Season Beauty:

Bachelor's Button
Basil
Black-eye Susan
Borage
Calendula
Cilantro
Cosmos
Foxglove
Lavender
Squash
Thyme

For Late-Season Color:

Agastache
Amaranth
Cleome
Dahlia
Marigold
Salvia
Sunflower
Zinnia



Tangerine-colored osteospermum is a pollinator plant.



It's time to till the vetch cover crop into your soil to add nutrients.