

Plant list for forage

<http://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/insects/creating-pollinator-habitat-5-616/>

The list of plants for pollinator habitats will vary for different parts of Colorado as climatic conditions, soil quality, elevation and water availability are highly variable. Here are some suitable plants that are grouped based on the flowering season. Again, it is important to have plants that bloom from early spring through summer and as late into the fall as possible to provide continual resources for pollinators.

Early-Season

- Nodding onion – *Allium cernuum*
- Serviceberry – *Amelanchier alnifolia*
- Winecups – *Callirhoe involucrata*
- Sulphur flower – *Eriogonum umbellatum*
- Wallflower – *Erysimum spp.*
- Prairie smoke – *Geum triflorum*
- Blue Flax – *Linum lewisii*
- Blue mist and firecracker penstemon – *Penstemon eatorii* and *P. virens*
- Pasque flower – *Pulsatilla patens*
- Flowering fruit trees including apples, cherries, peaches and plums
- Penstemons (many native and cultivar options, check with local nursery)
- Yarrow – *Achillea millefolium*

Mid-Season

- Lead Plant – *Amorpha canescens*
- Asters (many native and cultivar options, check with local nursery)
- Pearly everlasting – *Anaphalis margaritacea*
- Showy milkweed – *Asclepias speciosa*
- Harebells – *Campanula rotundifolia*
- Blanket flower – *Gaillardia aristata*
- Salvias (many native and cultivar options, check with local nursery)
- Flowering trees including willows, black locust, linden and honey locust

Late-Season

- Blue Giant Hyssop – *Agastache foeniculum*
- Rocky Mountain bee plant – *Cleome serrulata*
- Plains Coreopsis – *Coreopsis tinctoria*
- Common sunflower – *Helianthus annuus*
- Hairy False Goldenaster – *Heterotheca villosa*
- Goldenrod – *Solidago spp.*
- Rabbitbrush – *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*
- Chokecherry – *Prunus virginiana*
- Boulder raspberry – *Rubus deliciosus*

Location of the garden is extremely important. Most pollinators generally prefer sunny areas and large connected habitats are better than small patchy ones. Before planting, determine if you can connect your front yard and your backyard through the use of flowering plants and plan accordingly. It is important to have a variety of flowering species planted as groups/swaths in the landscape rather than as single plants. This allows the pollinators to work one area more thoroughly and efficiently, rather than having to move around a great deal to find plants of the same species.