



# VT Pollinator Habitat Plant Palette

updated 22 Dec 22

Jane Sorensen Northeast Pollinator Plants, VT

Plant Name	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sun/Shade	Value				Notes
<b>GC=Ground Cover</b>	<i>Info. Source: Xerces, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, USDA Plants</i>						<b>Bee</b>	<b>But</b>	<b>Hun</b>	<b>Host</b>	
<b>PERENNIALS for Naturalized Gardens and/or Meadows short-lived, vigorous spreading and/or reseeding</b>											
Dicentra cucullaria	.5'-1'	dutchman's breeches				part/sha	X				white bleeding hrt
Polemonium reptans	1'-1.5'	creeping jacob's ladder				sun	X				prolific reseeder
Prunella vulg.ssp lanceo. GC	.5'-1.5'	self-heal				sun/part	X	X			nice,low,early/flow.
Antennaria plantag. GC	.5 - 1'		pussytoes			sun/part					attracts benefic. Ins.
Erigeron pulchellus	1.5'-2'		robin's plantain			sun/part	X	X			avoid rich soils
Osmorhiza claytonii	1'-3'		sweet cicely/clayton's sweet root			shade/part	X				moist, shade
Viola sororia GC	.5'-.75'		common blue violet			sun/part	X				great ground cover
Zizia aurea		1.5'-3'	golden zizia			sun	X	X		X	prolific reseeder
Caltha palustris GC		.5'-1'	marsh marigold			sun/shade	X				moist, sun-shade
Aquilegia canadensis		2'-3'	canada columbine			sun/part	X	X	X	X	short-lived/reseeds
Echinacea pallida		2'-3'	pale purple coneflower			sun/part	X	X			narrow petals, reseed
Verbena stricta		wooly verb	1.5'-4'			sun	X	X		X	prolific reseeder
Geum rivale		water aven	.75'-1'			sun/part	X				boggy meadows
Achillea millefolium		yarrow	2'-3'			sun	X	X			tends to flop
Rudbeckia hirta		black-eyed	2'-3'			sun	X	X			short-lived/reseeds
Mimulus ringens		monkeyflow	1'-3'			sun/part	X	X		X	moist-wet, rain gard.
Anaphalis margaritacea GC		pearly everlastin	1'-3'			sun/part		X			grey foliage
Ascepias syriaca		common milkwe	2'-3'			sun/part	X	X		X	host to Monarchs
Asclepias exaltata		poke milkweed	3'-5'			sha/parr	X	X			dappled light
Asclepias incarnata		swamp milkweed	2'-4'			sun/part	X	X		X	host to Monarchs
Drymocalis [Potentilla] arguta		tall cinquefoil	2'-3'			sun/part	X				great for pest contr.
Chamerion angustifolium		fireweed	2'-3.5'			sun/part	X	X		X	prolific reseeder
Desmodium canadense		showy tick trefoil	3'-5'			sun/part	X	X	X	X	prolific reseeder
Euthamia graminifolia		flat-top goldenrod	2'-3.5'			sun	X				a billowy goldenrod
Apocynum cannabinum		indian hemp/dogbane	2'-4'			sun/part	X	X			toxic to dogs!
Thermopsis vilosa		carolina bushpea	3'-5'			sun	X	X			like a yellow lupine
Doellingeria umbellata		flat-topped aster	5'			sun/part	X	X		X	moist-wet,early aster
Lysimachia ciliata		fringe loosestrife		1'-2'		sun/part	X				wet,aggressive spr
Grindelia squarrosa		curlycup gumweed		.5'-3'		sun/part	X				bees of great concern
Salvia azurea		blue sage		3'-5'		sun	X	X			nice blue
Helianthus strumosus		pale-leaved sunflower		5'-8'		sun/part	X	X			aggressive spread
Rudbeckia laciniata		green-headed coneflower		2'-9'		sun/part	X				aggressive spread
Symphotrichum punideum		swamp aster		6'-8'		sun	X	X			moist-wet
Verbena hastata		blue verbena		2'-6'		sun	X	X		X	self-seed/spread
Lobelia cardinalis		cardinal flower		2/-4/		sun/part		X	X		short-lived/reseeds
Scutellaria lateriflora		mad-dog scullcap		2'-3'		sun/part	X				moist, beautiful
Solidago speciosa		showy goldenrod		2'-3'		sun	X	X			showiest gldnrod
Helianthus maximiliani		maximilian sunflower		3'-10'		sun	X				aggressive spread
Eurybia macrophylla		big-leaf aster			2'-4'	sun/sha		X		X	a woodland beauty
Solidago canadensis		canadian goldenrod			3'-6'	sun/part	X	X			self-seed/spread



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	Info. Source: Xerces, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, USDA Plants						Bees	Butterflies	Hummingbirds	Hosts	
<b>SHRUBS for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement</b>											
Ceanothus americanus	3'-4'	new jersey tea					par/shd	X	X	X	use this!!
Salix species	varies	native willows					sun/sha	X	X	X	valuable, use
Shepherdia canadensis	4'-6'	russet buffaloberry					sun/sha	X			nice enough
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	.6'-1'	kinnikinnick					sun/part	X	X	X	grd. Cover
Rosa species (not multiflora)	varies	native roses					sun/sha	X			bees/berries/birds
Lindera benzoin	6'-12'	spicebush					sun/part		X	X	big butterfly mag.
Ribes americanum	3'-6'	wild black currant					sun/part	X			bees/berries/birds
Ribes (gooseberry)	2'-5'	gooseberry					sun/sha	X			cool fruit
Rhododendron canadense	1'-4'	rhodora					sun/part	X	X	X	flower, rough plant
Viburnum opulus	8'-12'	europaean cranberrybush					sun/part	X	X		not native but bee
Physocarpus opulifolius	5'-8'	common ninebark					sun/part	X			great in garden
Rhus aromatica	5'-12'	fragrant sumac					sun/sha	X	X	X	try 'Gro-Lo" cutl
Rubus species	varies	native raspberry, blackberry, dewberry					sun/sha	X	X		great for all
Cornus sericea	7'-9'	redosier dogwood					part		X	X	nice stem color
Vaccinium angustifolium	.5'-2'	low-bush blueberry					sun/sha	X			low-bush blueberry
Vaccinium corymbosum	6'-12'	high-bush blueberry					sun/sha	X			highbush blueberry
Ribes tirste	1.5'-3'	swamp red currant					sun/sha	X			for wet
Symphoricarpos orbiculatus	2'-5'	coralberry					sun/part	X			bees/berries/birds
Viburnum dentatum	6'-8'	arrowwood viburnum					sun/sha	X	X	X	lots going for it
Amorpha fruticosa	6'-10'	false indigo bush					sun/part	X	X	X	fine texture
Rhododendron maximum	4'-15'	wild rhododendron					part	X			warm microclimate.
Rhus glabra	9'-15'	smooth sumac					sun/part	X	X	X	thicket
Rhus typhina	15'-25'	staghorn sumac					sun/part	X			thicket
Vaccinium vitum-idaea	.5'-1.5'	lignonberry					sun/sha	X			bees/berries/birds
Sambucus nigra [canadens.]	10'-18'	american black elderberry					sun/part	X			bees/berries/birds
Vaccinium macrocarpon	.5'-1"	cranberry					part	X			bees/berries/birds
Spiraea alba	3'-4'	meadowsweet					sun/sha	X	X	X	moist, long bloom
Clethra alnifolia	summersweet		6'-12'				sun/sha	X	X	X	use this!!
Diervilla lonicera	north bush-honeysuckle		1'-3'				part/sha	X			nice for shade
Spiraea tomentosa	steepleshub		3'-6'				sun/part	X	X	X	thicket
Daisphora fruticosa	shrubby cinquefoil		1'-4'				sun/part	X	X		long-flowering
Hypericum prolificum	shrubby st. johnswort		1'-4'				sun/shade	X			bumbles love this!
Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush		3'-6'				sun/part	X	X	X	warm microclimate.
<b>VINES for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement</b>											
Aristolochia macrophylla	15'-30'	Dutchman's Pipe					sun/part		X	X	pipevine swallo.
Lonicera sempervirens	8'-15'	trumpet honeysuckle					sun/part	X	X	X	native, use this!
Clematis virginiana		woodbine		12'-20'			sun/shade	X	X	X	aggress.spreader

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<b>GRASSES for Gardens - long-lasting, minimal spreading and r</b>											
Carex stricta		1'-3'	upright sedge				X			moist to in water	
Deschampsia cespitosa		1'-3'	tufted hair grass				X	X	X	medium-wet, alkali.	
Sporobolus compositus		sand drops	3'-5'				X			Long blooming grass	
Panicum virgatum		switch grass		3'-6'				X	X	gorgeous plant,	
Schizachyrium scoparium		little bluestem			2'-4'		X	X	X	gorgeous plant,	
Andropogon gerardii		big bluestem					X	X	X	reseeds. cut winter	
<b>GRASSES for Naturalizing, Cottage Gardens and/or Meadows short-lived, vigorous spreading and/or reseeding</b>											
Koeleria macrantha		1'-2'	junegrass				X			short-lived, reseeds,	
Zizania aquatica			2'-8'		wild rice						
Tridens flavus		purpletop tridens			2.5'-7'		X		X	Part shade, massing	
<b>BEE LAWN: overseed lawn with clovers or replant with fescues and clovers, mow monthly at 3"-4". Source: Mary Meyer, UMN</b>											
Trifolium repens		.25'-.5	white dutch clover			sun/part	X			spread, bees love	
Trifolium hybridum			.5'-1.5'		alsike clover	sun/part	X			spread, bees love	
Festuca ovina, Festuca rubra and, Festuca brevipila - Fescue mix, good for less mowing						sun/part				mow monthly, 3"-4"	
Scilla siberica	.25'	siberian squill				sun/part	X			early flowering bulb	
Crocus sieberi Tricolor	.25'	sieber's crocus								early flowering bulb	
Thymus vulgaris (Zone 5-9)		2'-2.5'	english thyme			sun/part	X	X		in warm microclim.	
Prunella vulgaris			.5'-1'		self-heal	sun/part	X			self-heal, bees love	
<b>HERBS for Gardens, Containers and Beds - need to let flower for pollinators, generally native to Europe.</b>											
Allium schoenoprasum		1'-1.5'	chives			sun/part	X	X		perennial, long last	
Thymus vulgaris (Zone 5-9)		2'-2.5'	english thyme			sun/part	X	X		in warm microclim.	
Symphytum officinale	comfrey	3'-5'				sun/part	X	X		Tap root, spreading	
Nepeta faassenii	catmint	1'-2'				sun	X	X	X	great mass, showy	
Salvia officinalis	common sage	2'-2.5'				sun/part	X	X		bees love	
Origanum majorana	sweet marjoram	1'-2'				sun/part	X	X		grow as an annual	
Anethum graveolens	dill	1'-3'				sun/part	X	X		grow as an annual	
Borage officinalis	borage	2'-3'				sun	X	X		reseeds readily	
Foeniculum vulgare	fennel	4'-6'				sun	X	X		reseeds readily	
Lavandula spp. (Zone 5-7)	lavender	1'-3'				sun/part	X	X		in warm microclim.	
Melissa officinalis	lemon baln	1.5'-3'				sun/part	X	X		spreads, contain it	
Mentha spp.	mints	.5'-3'				sun/part	X	X		spreads, contain it	
Origanum vulgare	wild oregano		1'			sun/part	X	X		spreads, contain it	
Allium tuberosum	garlic chives				1'-2'	sun/part	X			garlicky , bees love.	
Angelica archangelica	garden angelica				4'-6'	sun/part	X	X		biennial, moist,	

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<b>Annuals for Gardens, Containers and Beds - non-native, but plentiful pollen or nectar to provide extra foraging.</b>											
Lobularia maritima	.25'-.75'		alyssum			sun/part	X			sweet odor, bee mag.	
Salvia coccinea	1'-2'		salvia			sun/part	X	X	X	reseeds, nice plant	
Lantana camara	1'-2'		lantana			sun		X		butterflies will flock!!	
Zinnia spp.	.5'-2'		zinnia			sun	X	X		all colors, bees love	
Cuphea spp.	.5'-2'		wi			sun/part	X	X	X	hummingbirds!!!	
Dianthus spp.	.25'-1.5'		garden pinks			sun/part	X	X	X	beauty!, attracts all	
Dimorphotheca (Osteospermum)	1'-1.5'		african daisy			sun/part	X	X		cool season flowers	
Centaurea cyanus	1'-3'		batchelor's buttons			sun	X	X		avoid invas.per.	
Calendula officinalis	.5'-1.5'		calendula			sun	X	X		attracts beneficials	
Portulaca oleracea	.25'-.5'		portulaca			sun	X	X		hot dry sun,	
Cleome hassleriana	1'-4'		cleome			sun	X	X	X	hot, dry sun,	
Dahlia spp.	1'-4'		dahlia			sun/part	X	X	X	lots colors, easy	
Tagetes	.5'-4'		marigold			sun		X	X	butters/hum	
Helianthus (NO treated seed)	.5'-8'		sunflowers			sun	X	X		hot, dry, sun, bees	
Amaranthus spp.	1'-7'		amaranthus			sun	X	X		back of border	
Tithonia rotundifolia	4'-6'		mexican sunflower			sun	X	X			
<b>NATIVE ANNUALS - tend to be very aggressive reseeder, plant one to have a colony, good for meadows.</b>											
Collinsia parviflora	.5'-1'		maiden blue-eyed mary			prt/shd	X			dainty, early flowers	
Clarkia pulchella	.5'-1.5'		deerhorn clarkia			sun	X			for cottage garden	
Gaillardia pulchella	indian blan		1'-1.5'			sun	X	X		Great annual	
Imptatiens capensis	jewelweed		2'-5'			sun/part	X	X	X	Wild annual, wet!	
Cleome [Peritoma] serrulat	rocky mtn beep		3'-6'			sun/part	X	X	X	showy, reseeds	
Chamaecrista fasciculata	partidge pea		1'-3'			sun	X	X		great as cover crop.	
Oenothera bienssa	common evening prim		2'-6'			sun/shd	X	X		short-lived, reseeds	
Bidens cernua	nodding bur mariglod		.5'-3'			sun	X			bees, reseeds	