

## Twenty-Five Recommended Low-Water Bee Plants for the Sacramento Region

Christine Casey, Häagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven, UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology

Plant and approximate bloom period <sup>1</sup>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Germander ( <i>Teucrium fruticans</i> )	N	X	X	X							X	X
Rosemary ( <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> ) <sup>2</sup>	N	X	X	X							X	X
Manzanita ( <i>Arctostaphylos</i> spp.) <sup>* 2</sup>	N	X	X									X
California poppy ( <i>Eschscholzia californica</i> ) <sup>*</sup>	P	X	X	X	X							
Ceanothus ( <i>Ceanothus</i> spp.) <sup>* 2</sup>	P	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Redbud ( <i>Cercis occidentalis</i> ) <sup>* 3</sup>	N		X									
Phacelia ( <i>Phacelia</i> spp.) <sup>*</sup>	NP		X	X	X							
Brandegee's sage ( <i>Salvia brandegeei</i> ) <sup>*</sup>	N		X	X	X	X						
Lavender ( <i>Lavandula</i> spp.) <sup>2</sup>	N		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Mallow ( <i>Malacothamnus</i> and <i>Sphaeralcea</i> spp.) <sup>*</sup>	NP		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Catmint hybrids ( <i>Nepeta x faassenii</i> cultivars)	N		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Cape balsam ( <i>Bulbine frutescens</i> )	NP		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Foothill penstemon ( <i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i> ) <sup>*</sup>	NP			X	X	X	X					
Autumn sage, little-leaved sage, and their hybrids ( <i>Salvia greggii</i> , <i>Salvia microphylla</i> , <i>Salvia x jamensis</i> ) <sup>2</sup>	N			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Blanketflower ( <i>Gaillardia x grandiflora</i> )	NP			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Coffeeberry ( <i>Frangula californica</i> ) <sup>* 2</sup>	N				X							
Toyon ( <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> ) <sup>*</sup>	NP					X						
Cleveland sage ( <i>Salvia clevelandii</i> ) <sup>*</sup>	N					X	X	X	X	X		
Wall germander ( <i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i> )	N					X	X	X	X	X		
California buckwheat ( <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> ) <sup>*</sup>	N						X	X	X	X		
Gum plant ( <i>Grindelia camporum</i> ) <sup>* 4</sup>	NP						X	X	X	X		
Russian sage ( <i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> ) <sup>2</sup>	N						X	X	X	X		
California fuchsia ( <i>Epilobium canum</i> ) <sup>* 2</sup>	N						X	X	X	X	X	
Texas ranger ( <i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i> )	N							X	X	X		
Mexican sage ( <i>Salvia leucantha</i> )	N						X	X	X	X	X	

<sup>\*</sup>=California native    <sup>1</sup>N=nectar source; P=pollen source

<sup>3</sup>Foliage used by leafcutter bees for nesting material

<sup>2</sup>Many cultivars available; all used by bees

<sup>4</sup>Gummy sap a potential source of propolis.