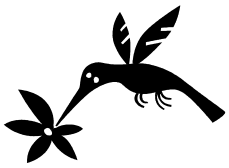
PLANTS THAT ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS: ZONES 8 and 9

by Dianne Sharples, U.C. Master Gardener



Trees and Shrubs

Bird of Paradise, Poinciana (*Caesalpinia – C. gilliesii, C. pulcherrima*)
Evergreen/deciduous.
Yellow/ red flower. Blooms throughout warm weather.

Bird of Paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*) Evergreen.
Orange/ blue/ white in one flower. Can bloom year round.

Bottlebrush (*Callistemon*) Evergreen shrub or tree.
Red flower. Can bloom year round.

Butterfly Bush/Summer Lilac (*Buddleja alternifolia*) Deciduous.
Lilac flower spike. Blooms spring to early summer.

California Buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) Deciduous.
Creamy flower spike. Blooms in spring.

Christmas Cactus (*Schlumbergera bridgesii*) Cactus. Evergreen.
Various colors of pink flowers. Can bloom more than once a year. Needs forcing for Christmas bloom.

Chuparosa (*Justicia californica*) Native -Semi evergreen or deciduous.
Red / yellow flower. Blooms March - June

Citrus (*Citrus* - all types) Evergreen.
White flower. Bloom time depends on species.

Desert Willow (*Chilopsis*) Deciduous. Burgundy Desert Willow is native.
Burgundy/ rose / lavender flowers. Blooms spring to fall.

Flowering Crabapple (*Malus floribunda* and hundreds of cultivars – Western Garden book lists 51!) Deciduous.
Pink/ rose/ red flowers. Blooms in spring.

Hibiscus (*Hibiscus – H. moscheutos, H. mutabalis, H. sabdariffa* grow best in our zone). Perennial/Decidious/Annual.
Color variety. Bloom varies with species. Basically late spring – summer.

Indian Hawthorne (*Rhaphiolepis – R. indica*) Evergreen.
Pink/ red/ white flowers. Blooms midwinter to late spring. Here often seem to go throughout the summer.

Lantana (*Lantana camara, L. horrida, L. montevidensis*) Annual/Perennial.
Orange/ pink/ yellow/ purple flowers. Blooms summer through fall.

Plants that Attract Hummingbirds courtesy of:
University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Tulare-Kings Co.
Have a gardening question? The UC Master Gardeners offer free information On gardening. Call anytime and we will return your call.
Tulare: (559) 684-3325 & (559) 684-3326 Hanford: 582-3211 ext. 2736

Lavendar (*Lavandula* – many cultivars and hybrids) Evergreen
Pale to bright violet-blue flower/ pink/ white. Blooms late spring to fall depending on variety.

Loquat – Japanese Plum (*Eriobotrya japonica*) Evergreen.
Small white wooly flowers. Blooms in fall.

Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos species*) Native. Evergreen.
Pink/ white flowers. Blooms late winter to early spring.

Mimosa or Silk Tree (*Albizia julibrissin*) Semi-evergreen.
Pink flowers. Blooms July – August.

Rose of Sharon, Althea (*Hibiscus syriacus)* Deciduous.
Purple/ lavender/ pink/ white/ rose flowers. Blooms mid summer to frost.

Silk Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) Evergreen.
Gold/ orange flowers. Blooms in March.

Shrimp Plant (*Justicia brandegeeana* - red) Evergreen.
Purple spotted white flowers form in bronze spikes looking like shrimp. Blooms spring – fall and sporadically other times of the year.

Mexican Bush Sage/ Velvet Sage (S*alvia leucantha*) Native – Evergreen.
Purple (Purple Velvet) or white flower. Blooms summer to frost.

Mountain Sage (*Salvia regla*) Evergreen or deciduous (depends on frost).
Orange/ scarlet flower. Blooms fall to frost.

Tree Mallow (*Lavatera assurgentiflora: L. maritima, thuringiaca and trimestris* (annual) grow better in our zones) Evergreen.
All shades of pink flowers depending on species. Nearly ever blooming.

Tree Tobacco *(Nicotiana glauca*) Perennial.
Small, unscented yellow/green flowers. Blooms April – November.

Valley Oak and evergreen conifers are popular nesting sites.

Perennials and Annual Flowers

Aloe Vera (*Aloe barbadensis*) Perennial
Yellow, tubular flowers. Blooms spring and summer.

Beard Tongue (*Penstemon*) Native - Perennial.
Color variety. Blooms spring through summer.

Begonia *(Begonia semperflorens*) Annual/perennial.
Color variety white through reds. Blooms late spring until first frost.

California Fuschia, Hummingbird Flower (*Zauschneria*) Native – Perennial.
Red tubular flower. Blooms spring through fall.

Canna Lily (*Canna*) Perennial.
Red/ orange/ yellow/ pink/ cream/ variegated flowers. Blooms summer to fall.

Columbine (*Aquilegia*) Native – Perennial.
Color variety. Blooms spring – early summer.

Coral Bells (*Heuchera americana, H. brizoides, H. canyon, H. micrantha, H. sanguinea*) Native – Perennial - Evergreen.
White/red/pinks/coral flowers. Blooms spring or summer into fall.

Crocosmia "Lucifer" (*Crocosmia* – many cultivars) Perennial corm.
Color variety/ Lucifer bright red blossoms. Blooms late spring and summer.

Daylily (*Hemerocallis* – many hybrids) Deciduous or semi-evergreen perennial.
Color Variety. Various bloom times range from mid-spring through fall depending on variety.

Flowering Tobacco (*Nicotiana alata*) Perennial mostly grown as annual.
Green/ red/ white/ yellow flowers. White more likely to open late evening to night. Summer bloom.

Four-O'Clock (*Mirabilis spp.*) Annual/Perennial.
Color variety – the blue is perennial. Blooms summer to fall.

Foxglove (*Digitalis* – many cultivars) Perennial/Biennial.
Color variety. Blooms spring and summer.

Giant hyssop or Hummingbird Mint (*Agastache* – many cultivars and hybrids)
Perennial. Color variety. Summer blooms.

Gladiolus (*Gladiolus* – many hybrids) Perennial.
Color variety. Blooms from spring to fall depending on variety.

Hollyhock (*Althea rosea/ Alcea rosea*) – Biennnial or short lived perennial.
Color variety. Blooms late spring to fall.

Impatiens *(Impatiens* – many cultivars, hybrids and strains) Annual.
Color variety. Blooms late spring to frost.

Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja*) Native - Annual or biennial.
Red orange flower. Blooms in spring.

Larkspur (*Delphinium*) Annual/Perennial.
Color variety. Blooms late spring and early summer.

Lily of the Nile (*Agapanthus* – several hybrids) Perennial.
White/ blue/ lavender. Summer bloom.

Lobelia, Cardinal Flower (*lobelia* – several cultivars) Annual/perennial.
Color depends on variety, mostly red or purple flowers. Summer bloom.

Lupine (*Lupinus*) Native – Annual in zones 8 – 9.
Blue/ purple flower. Blooms spring or summer depending on variety.

Monkeyflower (*Mimulus*) Native - Perennial/ Hybrid annuals.
Red/ orange/ pinks/ yellow flowers. Blooms summer to fall.

Nasturtium *(N. tropaeolum*) Annuals/Perennials.
Color variety of reds/ yellows/ whites. Blooms spring through fall.

Peruvian Lily (*Alstromeria*– many hybrids and 190 cultivars) Perennial.
Color variety. Blooms spring – early summer.

Petunia (*Petunia* – many hybrids) Annual.
Color variety. Blooms early summer to frost.

Phlox (*Phlox* – several cultivars) Perennial.
Color variety. Spring - summer bloom.

Red Hot Poker, Torch Lily (*Kniphofia* – several cultivars and hybrids) Perennial.
Red/ coral/ orange/ yellow/ light green. Can bloom most of year if several varieties planted.

Salvia and sage (*Salvia* – 900 species throughout world) Evergreen or deciduous shrubs, perennials, biennials and annuals. Color and plant variety (6 pages in Western Garden Book). Most bloom spring through fall.

Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum majus*) Perennial treated as annual.
Color variety. Blooms winter through spring.

Spiderlily (*Lycoris radiata*) Perennial.
Red flower. Blooms late summer/early fall, mid fall, late fall/early winter.

Star Clusters (*Pentas lanceolata*) Annual in Zones 8-9.
Red/ White/ lavender/ pink flowers. Blooms summer to fall.

Zinnia, Star Zinnia (*Zinnia elegans, Z. angustifolia*), Annual.
Z. elegans - color variety – Summer bloom; Z angustifolia orange/ yellow/ white flowers – blooms late spring into late fall.

Vines and Ramblers

Trumpet Vine (*Campsis radicans or Bignonia radicans*) Semi-evergreen to deciduous. Orange/Red or yellow flowers ("Flavia"). Blooms midsummer to fall.

Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* – several) Evergreen/Semi- evergreen/Deciduous.
Red/ white/ coral/ purple/ pink/ yellow flowers. Bloom late spring into summer.

Morning Glory (*Ipomoea* – several cultivars) Perennial or annual.
Blue/ red/ purple/ tricolor. Blooms July to frost.

This information courtesy of:
UC Master Gardener Program of Tulare & Kings Counties
Have a gardening question? Call anytime and we will return your call.
Tulare: (559) 684-3325 & 684-3326 Hanford: 582-3211 ext. 2736

HUMMINGBIRDS YOU WILL FIND in Tulare & Kings Counties

by Dianne Sharples, U.C. Master Gardener

Anna's Male has rose-pink to reddish orange gorget and crown, female has patches of rose-pink in throat. Is larger than Costas and Black Chins.

Rufous Male has flame colored gorget and green crown with orange to cinnamon feathers on sides. Green can also be seen in certain lights. Female has variable throat markings but sides/flanks and tail are cinnamon. Very aggressive bird.

Black-Chinned Male has black gorget with bluish/purple lower band that can be seen in certain lights. Female is gray and white. Smaller than Anna's and Rufous

Occasionally you will see:

Costa's Male has brilliant violet helmet in some lights – can be confused with Black Chinned. Shorter tail. Female is gray-green – again, short tail.

Allen's Male orange overall with green crown and back. Female has variable throat markings with some orange feathers, white throat and pale cinnamon/orange sides and flanks. Often confused with Rufous. Habitat is usually more coastal.

Calliope Male has streaked rose-magenta gorget and pale face and squared, short tail. Female green and orange overall with white line above bill. Is usually in mountainous habitat.

FEEDER RECIPE

1/4 - 1/3 cup granulated sugar to 1 cup boiled water. Do not use honey or other sugars.

Revised 2011

SELECTED HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN RESOURCES

By Dianne Sharples, U.C. Master Gardener

Brenzel, K.N. Editor (2001). Western Garden Book. Menlo Park: Sunset Publishing Corporation.

Dave's Garden.com: Plant Files http://davesgarden.com/pf/

Evans, Erv (2002-2003). Attracting Hummingbirds: Flowers. North Carolina State University.

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/factsheets/birds/text/hbird_flowers.html

Gates, Terrie and Larry. The Hummingbird Website http://www.hummingbirdworld.com/h/

Gioumousis, Ellie. California Native Hummingbird Plants. California Native Plant Society. http://www.stanford.edu/~rawlings/PDF/PlantsHummers.pdf

Howell, Steve N.G. (2003). Hummingbirds of North America. Princeton: Princeton University Press

Neufield Nancy and Barbara Nielsen (1996). Hummingbird Gardens. New York: Houghton Mifflin.

Newsome-Brighton, Maryanne. (1987) A Garden Fit for Hummingbirds. Brooklyn Botanic Garden Record. 43 (3).

Schenck, Marcus (1993). Creating a Hummingbird Garden. New York: Quarto Publishing Inc.

Stokes, Donald and Lillian (1989). Stokes Hummingbird Book: The Complete Guide to Attracting, Identifying, and Enjoying Hummingbirds. New York: Little, Brown & Company.

Williamson, Sheri. Attracting and Feeding Hummingbirds. Neptune City: T.F.H. Publications Inc.

This information courtesy of:

University of California Cooperative Extension

Master Gardeners of Tulare & Kings Counties

Have a gardening question? The UC Master Gardeners offer free information on gardening. Call anytime and we will return your call.

Tulare: (559) 684-3325 & 684-3326 Hanford: 582-3211 ext. 2736