

Recommended Low-Water Bee Plants for Northern California
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Plant	Resource ¹	Sunset Zone ²	Bloom time	Notes
Winter and Spring plants				
Currants (<i>Ribes</i> spp.)* <i>Ribes malvaceum</i> , <i>R. aureum</i> , <i>R. sanguineum</i>	NP	varies with species	Winter to early spring	
Manzanita (<i>Arctostaphylos</i> spp.)*, esp. 'Howard McMinn'	N	7-9, 14-21	Winter	
Germander (<i>Teucrium fruticans</i>) 'Compacta'	N	4-24	Winter	
Rosemary (<i>Salvia rosmarinus</i>) 'Mozart', 'Barbeque', 'Prostratus'	N	4-24	Winter to early spring	
California wildflowers*	NP	1-24	Winter to early spring	
Ceanothus (<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.)* Low = 'Valley Violet' Medium = 'Concha' Tall = 'Ray Hartman'	P	5-9, 14-24	Winter and spring	
Western redbud (<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>)* ³	N	2-24	Winter to early spring	
Native sages (<i>Salvia brandegeei</i> , <i>S. clevelandii</i> , <i>S. sonomensis</i> and their crosses)*	N	15-17, 19-24	Winter to summer, depending on species	
Lavender (<i>Lavandula</i> spp.)	N	4-24	Winter to summer, depending on species	
Mallow (<i>Malacothamnus</i> and <i>Sphaeralcea</i> spp.)*	NP	3, 7-24	Spring and summer	
Cedros Island verbena (<i>Glandularia lilacina</i> 'De La Mina'*)	N	12-24	Winter to summer	
Catmint hybrids (<i>Nepeta x faassenii</i> cultivars) 'Walker's Low'; 'Six Hills Giant'	N	1-24	Spring to fall	
Cape balsam (<i>Bulbine frutescens</i>)	NP	8,9, 12-24	Nearly year-round, depending on location	
Santa Barbara daisy (<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>)	NP	8,9, 12-24	Nearly year-round, depending on location	
Foothill penstemon (<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>)* 'Blue Bedder'; 'Margarita BOP'	N	7-24	Spring	
California honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>)*	NP	8,9, 12-24	Spring	
Summer and Fall plants				
Toyon (<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>)*	NP	5-9, 14-24	Spring	
Desert willow (<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>)*	N	7-14; 18-23	Summer	
Autumn sage, little-leaved sage, and their hybrids (<i>Salvia greggii</i> , <i>Salvia microphylla</i> , <i>Salvia x jamensis</i>) ²	N	7-24	Spring to fall	
Blanketflower (<i>Gaillardia x grandiflora</i>) 'Arizona Sun'; 'Mesa Peach'	NP	1-24	Summer and fall	

Gaura (<i>Oenothera lindheimerii</i>)	NP	2B-24	Spring to fall	
Bluebeard (<i>Caryopteris x clandonensis</i>)				
Calamint (<i>Calamintha nepetoides</i>)	N	1-9; 14-24	Summer and fall	
Wall germander (<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>)	N	2-24	Summer and fall	
California buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>)* Low = 'Warriner Lytle' Medium = species	N	7-9, 14-24	Summer	
Russian sage (<i>Salvia yangii</i>) Low = 'Little Spire' Medium = 'Blue Spire' Tall = species	N	2-24	Summer and fall	
California fuchsia (<i>Epilobium canum</i>) *	N	2-11, 14-24	Summer and fall	
Texas ranger (<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>) Medium = 'Green Cloud' Tall = species	N	7-24	Summer	
California native asters Pacific aster (<i>Symphotrichum chilense</i>)* Low = 'Point St. George' Medium = 'Purple Haze' Non-native asters New England aster (<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>) New York aster (<i>Aster novi-belgii</i>) <i>Aster oblongifolius</i> 'Fanny's' <i>Aster x frikartii</i>	NP	1-24	Spring to fall, depending on species	
Sedum 'Autumn Joy' (<i>Hylotelephium telephium x spectabile</i>)	N	1-24	Late summer to fall	

* = California native. ¹N=nectar source; P=pollen source. ²Sunset Growing Zone ³Foliage used by leafcutter bees for nesting material from May to mid-summer