

# Pollen and Nectar Producing Plants of East Gippsland



## Bees



Bees are prized as producers of valuable substances such as wax, honey and propolis (a mix of wax and plant resins). But perhaps their greatest service is pollination.

## Flowers

Flowers offer pollinators nectar, pollen, scent - and sometimes nothing - in return for the transfer of pollen between either their own reproductive organs or those of another flower. It is estimated that between \$200 and \$500 billion worth of annual global food production relies on direct contributions by pollinators.

## Worldwide

Worldwide, more than 20,000 native bee species contribute to the survival and evolution of more than 80% of the flowering plants. Australia has around 1600 species of native bee of which the vast majority are solitary. We have only 11 species of social stingless bees and these do make and store small amounts of honey.



*Our landscape needs to supply pollinators with a variety of pollen and nectar sources as well as shelter. To aid this our gardens and shelterbelts can be planted with a variety of native plants that provide nectar and pollen all year round.*

*It is in our interest to maintain and improve the health, diversity and abundance of pollinators for multiple reasons.*

1. The more we rely on a single species for pollination the more vulnerable our systems become.
2. More pollinators means more competition causing them to move more between flowers and improving pollination.
3. Many insect pollinators, such as hover flies, wasps and bees are natural enemies of pests such as aphids, mites, thrips and various moths (codling for example). Other beneficial insects include Ladybirds, Green and Brown Lacewings, Damselfly and predatory Shield Bugs.



Females of all but the 11 species of stingless bees can sting although they are not known to be aggressive. They can, however, sting more than once.

**70%**

of Australia's solitary bee species are ground nesters. Most solitary species are only active in the warmer months. The rest of the year they remain hidden in their larval and pupal stages within their nests.

In Australia, pollination is carried out by the wealth of native bee species, the European honey bee and other insect pollinators such as flies, wasps, butterflies, moths and beetles as well as birds, bats and other animals.



# Pollen and Nectar Producing Plants of East Gippsland



Botanical name	Common name	Where	Height (m)	Nectar	Pollen	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Acacia implexa	Lightwood			Nil	Med	■	■										■
Acacia pycnantha	Golden wattle		3 to 8	Nil	Med								■	■	■		
Acacia terminalis	Sunshine wattle		1 to 5	Low	Med			■	■	■	■						
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood	Widespread	6 to 30	Nil	Med							■	■	■	■		
Acacia longifolia	Sallow wattle	Coastal	1 to 8	Nil	Med							■	■	■	■		
Arthropodium sp.	Lilies		60cm			■	■	■									
Austrodanthonia setacea	Wallaby grass							■	■	■							
Baeckea virgata	Tall baeckea	East of Mitchell River	2 to 4									■	■	■			
Banksia integrifolia	Coastal banksia	Coastal	4 to 20	Med	Med		■	■	■	■	■						
Banksia marginata	Silver banksia	Widespread	2-7	High	Low	■	■	■							■	■	■
Banksia serrata	Sawtooth banksia	Near coastal	2 to 10	Med	Med	■	■	■									■
Banksia spinulosa	Hairpin banksia	LE and Cann	2 to 5	Med	High				■	■	■						
Brachysome aculeata	Branching daisy		to 30cm			■	■	■							■	■	■
Brachysome spathulata	Spoon daisy		to 30cm			■	■	■							■	■	■
Bursaria spinosa	Sweet bursaria	Spindley shrub	1 to 5	Med	Low	■	■										
Callistemon citrinus	Crimson bottlebrush		1 to 3	Med	Med										■	■	■
Callistemon pallidus	Lemon bottlebrush		1 to 3	Med	Med	■									■	■	■
Carprobotus glaucescens	Pigface	Coastal	prostrate			■									■	■	■
Davesia ulicifolia	Gorse bitter-pea	Widespread	to 1.5										■	■	■		
Dodonea viscosa	Giant hop bush	Small flower	1 to 6	Low	Low	■	■								■	■	■
Eucalyptus albens	White box	Tubbut/ Mitchell River	8 to 24	Med	Med	■	■	■	■	■	■						
Eucalyptus melliodora	Yellow box	High Country	12 to 30	High	Nil	■	■								■	■	■
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest red gum	Plains	20-45	Med	High	■	■								■	■	■
Eucalyptus bositoana	Coast grey box	Far East	25-40			■	■	■									
Grevillea rosmarinifolia	Rosemary grevillea		0.3 to 2							■	■	■					
Hakea eriantha	Tree hakea		3 to 8	Med	Low										■	■	■
Hakea sericea	Bushy needlewood		2 to 5	Med	Low					■	■	■					
Hardenbergia violacea	Happy wanderer		climber	Low	Low								■	■	■	■	■
Indigofera australis	Austral indigo	Widespread	0.5-2												■	■	■
Kennedia prostrata	Running postman		prostrate							■	■	■					
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly tea-tree		up to 4	Med	Low	■	■										■
Leptospermum juniperum	Prickly tea-tree		2 to 3	Med	Low	■	■										■
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly tea-tree		2 to 6	Med	Low										■	■	■
Leptospermum scoparium	Manuka		2 to 4	Med	Low										■	■	■
Linum marginale	Native flax					■	■	■							■	■	■
Melaleuca ericifolia	Swamp paperbark		2 to 9	High	High												
Melaleuca squarossa	Scented paperbark		2 to 4	High	High	■	■										
Microseris lanceolata	Yam daisy												■	■	■		
Myoporum insulare	Common boobialla		1 to 6														
Oleria argophylla	Musk daisy-bush		3 to 8														
Oleria lirata	Snowy daisy-bush		1 to 5														
Oleria ramulosa	Twiggy daisy-bush		0.5-2.5			■	■	■	■	■					■	■	■
Pelargonium australe	Austral stork's-bill		to 0.3			■	■	■									
Prostanthera lasianthos	Victorian Christmas bush	Widespread	2 to 8														
Pultenea daphnoides	Large leaf bush pea		1-3												■	■	■
Tristania laurina	Kanooka		5 to 20			■	■										■
Wahlenbergia sp	Bluebells		ground												■	■	■
Xanthorea sp	Grass tree	Far East		Med	High												

Note: Plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations.

Trees and shrubs are planted for a number of reasons – as windbreaks, for shade or shelter, and for aesthetic reasons. By carefully selecting the species you may also produce an environment attractive to wildlife.

Plants for pollen are those that attract pollinators. As such, beneficial plants can be introduced into shelterbelts and gardens to increase pollen and nectar that attracts the natural “good bugs” that prey on “bad bugs”. The friendly insects also assist in pollination of gardens and crops. These plants by their very nature also attract the European honey bee and aid in the production of honey.

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For more information visit our website [www.fevl.org.au](http://www.fevl.org.au)

