## Strawberry: wildflowers for crop pollinators

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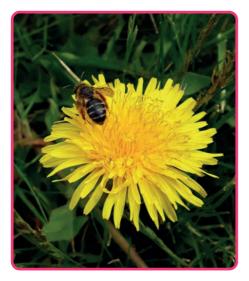
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Bees	Bombus lapidarius	Red-tailed bumblebee
	Bombus terrestris and lucorum	Buff-tailed and white-tailed bumblebee
	Andrena cineraria	Ashy mining bee
	Andrena nitida	Grey-patched mining bee
	Bombus pratorum	Early mining bee
	Bombus pascuorum	Common carder bee
	Osmia bicornis	Red mason bee
Hoverflies	Eristalis pertinax	Drone fly
	Episyrphus balteatus	Marmalade hoverfly



However, some wild plants are potential hosts of:

- a = melon-cotton aphid;
- b = Botrytis;
- **c** = European tarnished plant bug;
- f = cabbage stem flea beetle;
- g = common green capsid;
- **o** = ornate (violet) aphid;
- $\mathbf{p} = \text{potato aphid};$
- **s** = strawberry blossom weevil;
- t = tobacco thrips;
- v = Verticillium wilt



Consult seed companies for the species which best suit your growing conditions.



A selection of wildflowers that attract and support **strawberry** pollinators includes:

Perennials	Alsike Clover	Trifolium hybridum	a,c,g
	Bird's-foot Trefoil	Lotus corniculatus	
	Black Knapweed	Centaurea nigra	b,c
	Brown Knapweed	Centaurea jacea	
	Cuckoo Flower	Cardamine pratensis	
	Dandelions	Taraxacum officinale agg.	a,b,c,s,t
	Greater Knapweed	Centaurea scabiosa	с
	Oxeye Daisy	Leucanthemum vulgare	a,b,c
	Welsh Poppy	Papaver cambricum	0
	White Clover	Trifolium repens	b,c,g
	Timothy Grass	Phleum pratense	
Annuals	Bee Phacelia	Phacelia tanacetifolia	
	Bird's-eye Speedwell	Veronica persica	o,p
	Borage	Borago officinale	
	Field Poppy	Papaver rhoeas	с
Variable	Groundsels	Senecio sp.	b,c,v
	Hawksbeards	Crepis sp.	с

How these tables were compiled:

- 1. A literature search and assembly of published and unpublished data sets of insects recorded visiting this crop in the UK.
- 2. The insects were ranked by number of crop visits/visitors in each data set and aggregate weighted ranks were created that take into account the same insects dominating multiple data sets.
- **3.** For each of these insects, data on their wildflower visit activity in the UK and wider north-western Europe was assembled using existing literature.
- 4. These data sets were ranked by frequency of interaction and aggregate ranks produced.
- 5. Plants were removed from the ranks if they were woody/trees, bulbs, not native or naturalised non-native.
- 6. A further literature search assembled a list of wildflower-pest and wildflower-disease associations for pests and pathogens of key UK crops, to highlight any plants that may carry pest/disease risk (however slight).

**The BEESPOKE project** (Benefitting Ecosystems through Evaluation of food Supplies for Pollination to Open up Knowledge for End users) aims to increase levels of pollinators and crop pollination at local and landscape scales by providing land managers and policy makers with new expertise, tools and financial knowledge to create more sustainable and resilient agroecosystems.

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