

Native Plants To Attract Bees

Myrtaceae Family

Eucalypts, Tea Trees, Paperbarks, Bottlebrushes

With their large bowls of easily accessible nectar, are a particular favourite with many Australian native bees. Our short tongued bees, in the family Colletidae are the most diverse in the world because they have evolved with these bountiful food resources.

Leptospermum poligalifolium



Eucalyptus sp.



Callistemon rigidus



Kunzea ambigua



*Melaleuca
linariifolia*



Proteaceae Family

Banksia, Grevillea, Hakea

Have quite complex floral structures and some of our bees are able to 'unlock' the pollen presenter to access the protein rich resource. These flowers also provide a sugar rich nectar which is attractive to many small and large pollinators.

Grevillea longifolia



Banksia spinulosa



Hakea dactyloides



Asteraceae (Daisy) Family

Brachyscome, Bracteantha, Olearia

Native daisies are compound flowers with multiple simple flowers within a single inflorescence. These shallow flowers are visited by small, short tongued bees and other nectar seeking pollinators. The pollen is usually quite abundant.



Brachyscome multifida



Bracteantha bracteata



Olearia viscidula

Fabaceae (Pea) Family

Hardenbergia, Dillwynia, Pultenea, Hovea

Native peas are very attractive to bees in the Megachilidae family. This includes resin bees and leaf cutter bees. A female bee lands on the keel of the flower, enabling her to access the hidden pollen and store it in hairs (scopa) under her abdomen.



Other Species

Westringia, Bursaria, Correa

Flowers with tubular petals and deep floral structures, such as Correa, are pollinated most effectively by long tongued bees, such as blue banded bees. Ground nesting bees, such as Lasioglossum, Lipotriches and Amegilla are effective buzz pollinators of porcidal anthers, such as Dianella.



Types of Native Bees

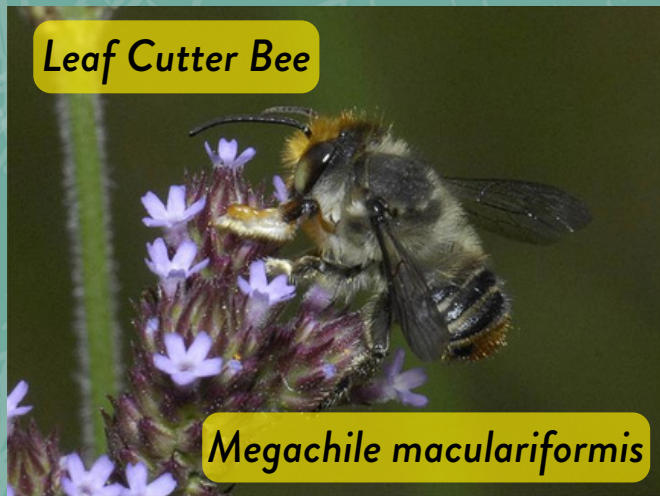
Leaf Cutter, Blue Banded, Resin, Teddy Bear Bees.

Native bees have evolved with an assortment of flowering plants.

Australia is home to 1,600 native bee species. About 350 species have been recorded in a 100km radius of Parramatta, which includes the Sydney basin, Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Illawarra.

Bees drive biodiversity through pollination. Pollination enables seed formation and fruit development. Of the 352,000 flowering plants and crops nearly 90% rely on pollinators for reproduction. Sadly our bee populations are declining. As we clear land for urban development, remove plants and use pesticides we cause bee population losses. By understanding more about our native and exotic bees we can help conserve their populations, thus supporting ecosystem biodiversity and also food security.

Leaf Cutter Bee



Megachile maculariformis

Blue Banded Bee



Amegilla cingulata

Resin bee



Megachile aurifrons

Teddy Bear Bee



Amegilla bombiformis

Making Homes for Native Bees

Habitat loss is affecting homes for bees. We can provide additional nesting habitat that are similar to their natural ones.

Different bees like different habitats.

- Resin and Leaf-cutter Bees will nest in drilled hardwood.
- Masked and Reed Bees nest in bundles of lantana and bamboo.
- Blue Banded Bees can also be encouraged into rammed earth blocks.

Find out more @ www.beesbusiness.com.au

