

PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS



*Burrowing Bee
on native pea*

NATIVE PLANTS

Native plants play an important role in sustaining our native bees. Some bees are very selective and specialised, having evolved to feed only on one or two types of native plants. Below is a list of plants that all native pollinators will love.

Trees

Flowering trees are important long-lived plant species that will offer abundant flowers, along with nesting resources to bees and other insects.

Black Peppermint
Tasmanian Blue Gum
White Gum
Silver Banksia
Leatherwood

Shrubs

Can be faster growing and smaller in size easier to integrate into your garden, they reward a wide range of native bees and other pollinating insects.

Teatree / Paperbark
White Kunzea
Needle bush (Hakea)
Beard Heath (Leucopogon)
Sweet Bursaria
Native Peas

Herbs & Ground Covers

Can be integrated below other plant species giving additional floral resources.

Everlasting Daisy & Paper Daisy
Pink Common Heath
Native Geranium
Native Pigface

*Burrowing Bee
on Mint
Bush*



TIP: Speak to your local Landcare group and native nursery to find out what native seeds or plants are available, get tips on planting, learn what plants do well and how to save your own native seeds. www.landcaretas.org.au/directory_of_groups

INTRODUCED PLANTS

Introduced plants also provide resources for native bees. Many species are 'generalist' and feed on a variety of flowers, like honeybees do. Introduced plants commonly visited by native bees and other insects, include:

- **Daisy flowers** - Calendula & Chamomile in your garden or Dandelion & Daisy in your lawn.
- **Herbs** - Thyme, Oregano, Sage (Salvia) herbs provide both flowers and hollow stems for nesting.
- **Cane berries** - Raspberry, Blackberry; have flowers for food and soft stems for reed bee nests.
- **Vegetables** - let your brassicas or onions go to flower for a great place to watch native bees at home.

Reed Bee



Planting Tips

- Plant flowers in clumps so bees don't have to search for their next meal.
- Have a variety of plants so you have flowers from spring to autumn.
- Both native and introduced plants benefit our native pollinators - no need to rip out your ornamentals.

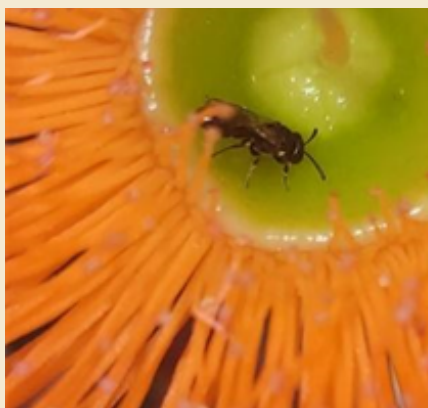
Native Bees

lutruwita/Tasmania has 120 different native bee species (and three introduced). Native bees range in size from 3 - 13 mm. They can have striped abdomens like a honeybee, or be solid black, red, even metallic blue! We do not have Blue Banded Bees in Tassie though.

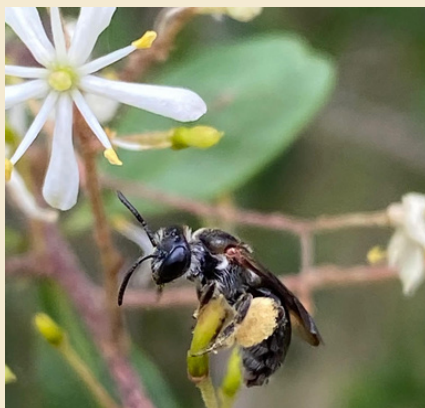
WHAT'S FEEDING ON MY NATIVE FLOWERS?

Some native bees are specialists, they will only feed on native flowers they have co-evolved with. For example, Masked Bees (*Hylaeus* sp.) favour native flowers.

A great way to find out what native bees and other insects like feeding in your garden is to go out on a warm spring and summer day and observe your flowers. You will be surprised about the diversity of beetles, flies, wasps, along with bees, you will find on different plants.



Masked Bee
on Flowering Gum



Plasterer Bees
on Sweet Bursaria



Masked Bee & Honeybee
on Banksia



Wasp-mimicking Bee
on Bottlebrush



Burrowing Bee
on Native Mint Bush



Burrowing Bee
on Native Pea



Nectar Scarab Beetle &
Flower wasp on Tea tree



Longhorn Beetle on Baeckea



Soldier Fly on
Olearia Daisy

Material and images supplied by Dr. Shasta Henry, Dr. Yolanda Hanusch and Tristan Skerratt.

WHAT'S FEEDING ON MY INTRODUCED FLOWERS?

Many native pollinators also visit introduced flowers for nectar and pollen. You don't need to remove all your veggies or weeds — leave some to flower. Add native plants to your garden, but be mindful that introduced and mainland Australian plants can be problematic weeds in the wrong area.



Reed Bee & Honey Bee on Ivy (size difference)



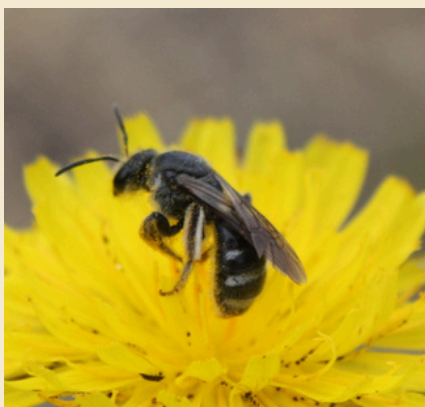
Reed Bee on Blackberry



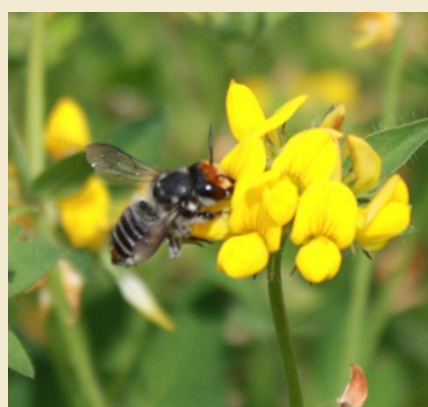
Reed Bee on Diosma



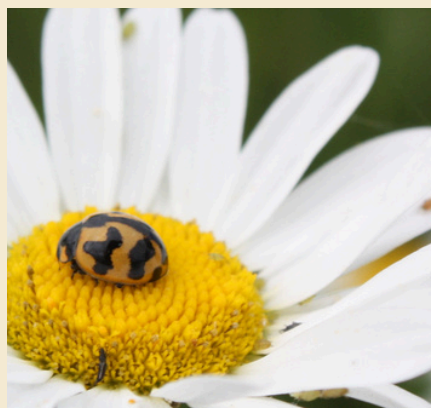
Burrowing Bee on Brassica



Burrowing Bee on Cats Ear



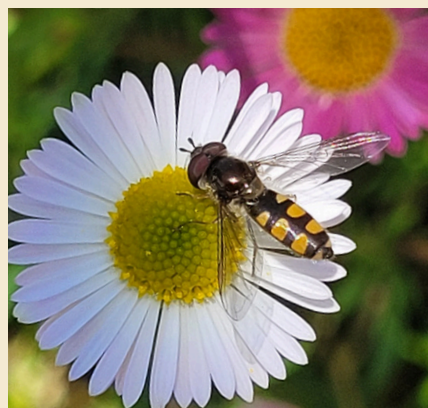
Native Leafcutter Bee on Birds-foot trefoil



Native Transverse Ladybeetle on Field Daisy



Tachinid fly on Mung beans



Hoverfly on Fleabane Daisy

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