

page	common name	bloom season (when flowers produce nectar and pollen)												notes	
		winter		spring			summer			fall		winter			
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December		
18	Chinese tallow or popcorn tree														tree
18	mint, spearmint, peppermint														wildflower
19	buttonbush														shrub
19	New Jersey tea or red root														shrub
20	squash														crop
20	smart knotweed, heartsease														wildflower
21	crimson clover														wildflower
21	American holly														tree
22	gallberry														shrub
22	tulip or yellow poplar														tree
23	palmetto														shrub
23	butterfly weed, milkweed														wildflower
24	basswood														tree
24	American buckwheat vine														vine
25	peppervine or cow-itch														vine
25	wisteria														vine
26	black titi or leatherwood														shrub
26	poison ivy														vine
27	devil's walking stick														shrub
27	maypop														vine
28	sumac (shining and smooth)														shrub
28	sweet pepper bush														shrub
29	Indian blanket														wildflower
29	sourwood														tree
30	ironweed														wildflower
30	goldenrod														wildflower

# INTRODUCTION

This publication contains a list of 53 plants that are capable of producing nectar. Most of these are supplemental plants for times when the best producers are not in bloom. The primary nectar sources in Louisiana are Chinese tallow, willow, clover (such as white Dutch and Persian), American buckwheat vine, aster and goldenrod. Most of the plants are not abundant enough in any one location to be good sources for any volume of nectar but can help colonies make it through times of need. The early bloomers like red maple, henbit, buttercups and yellowtop are important to help colonies get going and build up in early spring. In Louisiana, we also have some special situations when it comes to blueberry and citrus orchards. Just remember that any nectar flow is dependent on a good water supply, sunshine and air temperature. Sweet collections!

## HAIRY VETCH

*Vicia* sp.

A legume often found growing along the roadside, as well as for forage in pastures along with small grains like oats or wheat. In some instances it is grown as a cover crop. It is widely grown from Canada into the northern states and south into northern Texas, Arkansas and other southern states. Moderate to large surpluses here is Louisiana. Vetch can be grown statewide. Blooms November through April.

**Honey:** Bees work the clusters of purple or violet-purple flowers freely and can gather in excess of 40 pounds per colony of watery white to light amber honey depending on location. Honey has a good flavor.

**Pollen:** Minor source.



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