

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Midwest Plant Guide

Midwest includes IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, OH, and WI

* = superfood plants with nectar rich in amino acids

! = known immune building plants for bumble bees

○ = Full sun ◐ = Part shade/sun ● = Shade

For more information: <https://go.usa.gov/xNNWn>



Photo by: Susan Day, UW—Madison Arboretum



Bloom Period	Common Name	Scientific Name	Shade	Habitat type
Forbs/Wildflowers				
EARLY (March-April)	Anemones	<i>Anemone</i> spp.	◐ ●	Species dependent
	Ground plum	<i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i>	○	Dry prairies
	Virginia bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>	◐ ●	Moist woods, wooded edges
	Shooting star	<i>Primula</i> spp.	○ ◐	Savanna, open woods
	Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	◐ ●	Woodlands, open woods
	Virginia waterleaf	<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	◐ ●	Moist woodlands
	Wild lupine	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	○ ◐	Savanna, open woods
	Wood betony	<i>Pedicularis canadensis</i>	○ ◐	Prairies, open woods
MID (May-August)	Native giant hyssop* 1	<i>Agastache</i> spp.	○ ◐	Fields to deciduous woods
	Milkweed 2	<i>Asclepias</i> spp.	○ ◐	Species dependent
	Wild white indigo or cream indigo	<i>Baptisia</i> spp.	○ ◐	Prairie, open woodland
	White and purple prairie clover *	<i>Dalea candida</i> and <i>purpurea</i>	○	Prairies, dry fields
	Coneflower* 3	<i>Echinacea</i> spp.	○	Dry prairies
	Joe pye weed* 4	<i>Eutrochium</i> spp.	○	Wet meadows, open woods
	Jewelweed	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	○ ◐	Moist thickets, forested edges
	Blazing-star	<i>Liatris</i> spp.	○ ◐	Prairies
	Bee balm/wild bergamot*! 5	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	○ ◐	Dry fields, prairies
	Penstemon spp.	<i>Penstemon</i> spp.	○ ◐	Prairie, fields, wooded edges
Mountain mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	○ ◐	Fields, prairies, fens	
Culver's root 6	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	○ ◐	Fields, prairie, wooded edges	
LATE (Sept.-October)	Native field thistle	<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	○	Fields, open woods
	Native swamp thistle	<i>Cirsium muticum</i>	○ ◐	Swamps, wet meadows
	Gentian	<i>Gentiana</i> spp.	○ ◐	Moist fields, wooded edges
	Showy goldenrod* (also MID in IA, MN, MO) 7	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	○	Fields, prairies, savannas
	Goldenrod* (also MID in IA, MN, MO)	<i>Solidago</i> spp.	○ ◐ ●	Species dependent
	New England aster* (also MID in IA, MN, MO) 8	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	○ ◐	Moist fields, wooded edges
White turtlehead!	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	○ ◐	Wet meadows, wetlands	
Trees and Shrubs				
EARLY (March-April)	Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i> spp.	○ ◐	Forest understory, woods edge
	Plums and cherries	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	○ ◐	Species dependent
	Gooseberry and currants	<i>Ribes</i> spp.	○ ◐	Species dependent
	Willows	<i>Salix</i> spp.	○ ◐	Meadows, wetlands
MID (May-August)	Leadplant *	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	○	Dry prairie, open woods
	New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	○ ◐	Fields, prairies, open woods
	Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	○ ◐	Riverbanks, marshes, shores
	Dwarf bush honeysuckle	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	◐	Woodland edges, thickets
	Wild roses	<i>Rosa</i> spp.	○ ◐	Prairies, wooded edges
	American basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	○ ◐	Deciduous forest
	Large cranberry!	<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>	○	Wetlands