

7 SCABIOUS



Scabious plants have feathery blooms, usually in a pale lavender or cream colour. They are full of nectar, and insects including moths and butterflies love them. They look great in any bed. Cut stems back after flowering and they will carry on producing for months on end.

8 VERBENA



This is a great tall plant that is much loved by pollinators. It originally comes from Argentina, but it grows well in Ireland. It has tall, strong flower heads bearing masses of tiny purple blooms. Cut the stems back after flowering to encourage more to grow.

9 MARIGOLDS



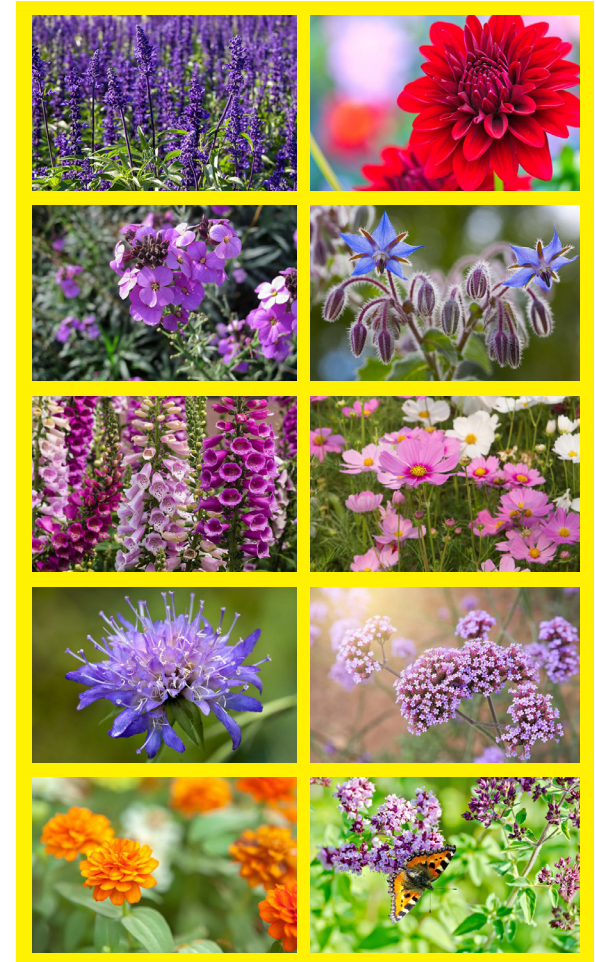
Marigolds are ideal summer bedding plants. They will grow in any soil type, and reward you (and the pollinators) with loads of bright, fiery flowers. Aim to buy varieties with open centres so insects can easily reach the pollen.

10 MARJORAM



Better known as oregano, this is another great herb that pollinators love. If left to grow freely, it produces tiny, delicate flowers in a pink or white shade. They have spiky, protruding stamen that offer the pollen freely, making them a great choice for insects.

Pollinator Friendly Plants



**Clonegal
Tidy Village
Association**

1 LAVENDER



This is a great all-rounder. It's hardy, it smells lovely and it looks great all year round. Bees and butterflies in particular love it. It's also a perfect for cutting and drying. Plant it along a pathway so it releases its scent as you walk by. And prune well after flowering for the best display the following year.

2 DAHLIA



The single or semi-double flowered varieties are best. Double flowers are often bred without pollen-producing parts. Others have too many petals, making it difficult for bees to find the bounty. But simple dahlias are hardy and low-maintenance plants for pollinators.

3 WALLFLOWER



These are like small shrubs, and flower during spring and summer. Many varieties have strong scents that make them perfect for edging pathways too. Most are biennial, meaning that you can refresh your display every two years.

4 BORAGE



Also known as starflower, this is actually a Mediterranean herb. It has lovely star-shaped blue flowers that pollinating insects love. It has lovely soft green foliage and self-seeds, so it's low-maintenance.

5 FOXGLOVES



These are a quintessential Irish cottage garden plant. They have bell-shaped flowers that are popular with bees, and come in a wide range of colours. They are also special for being one of the few flowering plants that grow happily in shady spots.

6 COSMOS



These are very long-flowering, giving blooms from June until late autumn. Deadhead the plants and they will keep on giving. There are loads of different styles and colours, and some have great scents too.