

Wildlife Gardening on the Isles of Scilly

Tips for planting bee friendly flowers in your garden.

Encouraging wildlife into your garden can be a really rewarding process, and it doesn't have to be too tricky. Once established, plants rich in nectar and pollen will serve their purpose and attract many bees and insects into your garden, which is a great way for all of us to increase biodiversity.

There are two main issues surrounding plant growth on Scilly, so select your plants carefully:

- 1) The salty air-many plants can't cope with it;
- 2) The wind-this can cause physical damage to plants, damaging limbs and stunts their growth.



Photo: Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust

Top Tips

- Select plants that are naturally adapted to the environment;
- Plant from seed, this will allow plants to grow to the conditions;
- Do not dig up any wild flowers to plant in your own garden;
- Fertilising plants will help them grown in this salty environment
- Be careful when selecting certain seed mixes as not all will be natural to Scilly;
- When clearing your garden rubbish, please deposit in the correct areas or compost.



ISLES OF SCILLY
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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Examples of plants that are suited to Scilly and will encourage bees are:

- Eryngiums, such as Sea Holly;
- Bird's Foot Trefoil;
- Thrift;
- Herbs, such as Rosemary, Thyme and Lavender;
- Echiums;
- Honey Spurge;
- Drosanthemums.
- Clovers
- Salvias



Thrift



Lavender



Birds foot trefoil

For more information on how to garden for wildlife please check out the following websites .

If you are in any doubt over which species you should plant on Scilly, please contact the AONB Unit and we will be able to advise you further.

www.thenationalbeeunit.com
www.ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk

www.naturalengland.org.uk
www.bumblebeeconservation.org