

List of Planting and Tree Species



Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

This is not an exhaustive list.
Bt = particularly good for butterflies
Bm = particularly good for bees

Herbaceous perennials & Alpines

Achillea native & non-native
Angelica sylvestris – wild angelica
Armeria – sea thrift
Agastache
Ajuga sps – many varieties shade tolerant
Aubrietia – blue shades are best Bt
Allysum saxatile
Eryngium
Echinops
Echium – excellent for bees and long flowering – good on dry bare ground
Dahlias – single open flower
Bergenia – elephant ears, with evergreen leaves
Calendula
Campunula – ground covers and tall varieties
Geraniums Cranesbill e.g. Johnson's Blue (not Pelargoniums) good for Bt
Primula sps Bt
Erysimum – short lived (take cuttings) perennial wallflower Bt
Helleborus
Eupatorium – hemp agrimony
Gaillardia
Lamium – dead nettle Bm
Helianthemum – rock rose
Pulmonarias shade tolerant & Comfrees (good in the veg garden)
Silene – red campion
Scabious group – native and non-native
Thistle group especially for Painted Lady Bt
Viola Bt
Kniphophia – red hot poker
Verbascum – good for Bt
Daisy type flowers are good all rounders – think easy access to nectar: Asters, erigeron, Echinacea, etc
Valerian Bt
Sedum group
Dianthus – sweet William Bt
Verbena
Wild native grasses important for the Brown Bt

Annuals

Nasturtium
Ageratum
Viola
Santivalia
Diascia (tender perennial – might survive an Irish Winter)

Nemesia (tender perennial – might survive an Irish Winter)

Bulbs

Alliums sps

Agapanthus

Crocus

Muscari – grape hyacinth

Iris

Hyacinths

Shrubs

Viburnum opulus – guelder rose – native, Viburnum davidii is low growing and spreads out

Rubus-Rosa sps – single open flower

Chaenomeles – quince

Berberis – many varieties including small low growing Spring flowers Bm

Caryopteris

Buddleia both davidii and globosa

Ribes – flowering currant

Hebe – shrubby veronica – many varieties

Myrtle – large shrub loved by bees

Heathers! Watch your soil type – Erica darleyensis and carnea ok in alkaline soils

– Winter/Spring flowers – deep pinks and purples best

Hedgerow plants

Hawthorn

Blackthorn

Honeysuckle

Dog rose

Willow

Hazel

Ivy

Holly

Oak

Sorbus

Crab apple

Ground flora ‘in the ditch’ e.g. viola, yarrow, knapweeds, vetches, willowherbs, foxgloves etc

Herbs

Mints – can take over beware

Sages – all types can be a bit tender but great garden plants

Lavenders Bm and white Bt

Rosemarys – prostrate and upright French & English

Fennels

Borage – very melliferous! – good companion plant in the veg garden

Catmint – Nepeta

Comfrey – good in veg garden make liquid feed

Chives see Alliums

Marjorams & Origanums – wild native sps
Tanacetum – feverfew good for Bt
Thymes

Climbers

Hedera – ivy
Single roses and native dog rose
Lonicera – honeysuckle – native sps
Hydrangea petiolaris – good on North facing wall
Boston ivy
Clematis single flower

Larval food of butterflies

Wildflowers in the cabbage family:

- Cuckoo flower/Lady's smock Cardamine sps
- Wild garlic mustard Alliaria
- Sweet rocket / Dame's violet Hesperis sp

Nettles

Bird's foot trefoil for the Blue bt
Also the wild vetches e.g. kidney vetch
Lunaria Honesty Orange tip butterfly
Myosotis Forget me not
Viola sps esp Dog violet for fritillaria
Ilex holly tree esp for Holly blue Bt
Devil's Bit Scabious – marsh fritillary

Some plants for clay soils & Pollinators

Trees

Salix
Sorbus
Sycamore
Hawthorn
Malus (apple & crab)
Pyrus (pear and ornamental)
Prunus (cherry)
Tilia (Lime) – (lime is now classified a native)

Shrubs

Berberis
Chaenomeles
Cotoneaster
Hypericum
Potentialla
Pyracantha
Ribes
Rubus
Spiraea (great group)

Syringa
Viburnum (great group)

Perennials – according to the RHS – ok in clay soils

Hardy geraniums
Lamiums (shade tolerant too)
Persicaria
Sedums
Solidago
Helleborus