

ATTRACTING BENEFICIAL INSECTS TO THE GARDEN

- Provide supplementary foods for beneficial insects by planting small, shallow-necked pollen and nectar producing flowers .

Perennials (not suitable for raised beds)

Basket-of-Gold
Bee Balm
Camomile (Anthemis)
Carpet Bugleweed (Ajuga)
Chives
Clover
Columbine “Bluebird”
Coneflower
Coreopsis
Cosmos
Daisies
Dwarf Alpine Aster
European Goldenrod
Sage
Sedums
Sulfur Cinquefoil
Thyme
Veronica “Red Fox”
Yarrow

Annuals (suitable for raised beds)

Cilantro
Dill
Garlic
Lobelia
Parsley
Sweet Alyssum
Sweet Marjoram

Allow some vegetables to bolt and flower

- Create a “bug bath” for drinking water by providing a small water bath with small stones above the waterline for dry landing sites.
- Beneficial insects regularly go through boom and bust population cycles.
 - Beneficials need high populations of prey (pests) for food.
 - More food, more beneficial eggs are laid.
 - More eggs hatch, more beneficials.
 - Lots of beneficials eat all the food.
 - Little to no food, beneficial populations decline.
 - Pests begin to come back.
 - Cycle begins again.