



# WHERE TO FIND NATIVE FLOWERING PLANTS, SHRUBS, AND TREES TO ENHANCE POLLINATOR HABITAT IN BULKLEY-NECHAKO AND FRASER-FORT GEORGE

This factsheet is a part of the Pollinator factsheet Series for the project *Creating climate resilient pollinator communities in Bulkley-Nechako and Fraser-Fort George (BNFFG)*. This series summarizes key findings from two years of field work on agricultural properties in BNFFG that studied the distribution and emergence patterns of pollinators, along with factors that promote pollinator biodiversity and resilience. Full project information and reports are available on the [Climate Change Adaptation Program website](#).

## BACKGROUND

From mid-May until early September, 2022, we surveyed native pollinators and flowering plants on 25 farms across the Bulkley-Nechako and Fraser-Fort George Regional Districts.

We identified 72 species of plants flowering at some point during the growing season that grew on or near farmland, and could be used by native pollinators.

We identified suppliers either located in the interior, or willing to ship their products here, for the most common pollinator-supporting plants – these are shown on the table on page two.

For more information about floral resources for pollinators in BC's central interior, see our floral resources handout [here](#).

## WHY IS IT A GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICE TO MAINTAIN POLLINATOR BIODIVERSITY?

Pollination is an essential ecosystem service – even if you don't grow a crop that depends on pollination, other critical ecosystem functions (like carbon cycling, nitrogen fixation, etc.) benefit when there are healthy native pollinator populations. More than 200 species of insect pollinators live in this area, and they differ in the time of year they are active (some species are more abundant in the spring, and others in summer), the types of plants they use for foraging, and the habitat characteristics they prefer for nest sites (ground-nesters often prefer well-drained sandy soils, while others need dead wood or other vegetation to build nests in). Areas with high native pollinator biodiversity will have greater resilience in pollination services (and other associated ecosystem functions) in unpredictable conditions, which is likely to insure against climate change-induced pollination declines.

## WHAT PROMOTES POLLINATOR BIODIVERSITY ON FARMS?

Increasing floral diversity is known to benefit pollinator biodiversity on farms. Many of the crops grown in BC's central interior already support pollinators, but having more types of flowering plants, shrubs, and trees on and around farms provides resources to a wider variety of pollinator species. Forage crop producers may want to consider adding new plants to areas currently used for alfalfa or grass production, while others may want to increase floral diversity in areas not used for production (e.g., field margins, roadsides, etc.). The table on the following page shows suppliers for common, hardy pollinator-supporting plants in the region, that are good candidates for pollinator enhancement projects.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR POLLINATOR ENHANCEMENT

Seed collecting and saving - North American Native Plant Society: <https://nanps.org/seed-collecting/>

Plant propagation protocols – Native Plant Network: <https://nnp.rngr.net/propagation>

Ecoregional Planting Guides – Pollinator Partnership Canada: <https://pollinatorpartnership.ca/en/ecoregional-planting-guides>

Habitat management for pollinators – Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation: <https://www.xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/habitat-restoration/management> and <https://www.xerces.org/publications/guidelines/maintaining-diverse-stands-of-wildflowers-planted-pollinators>

### POLLINATOR TIP:

The Environmental Farm Plan provides cost-share supports to producers to enhance pollinator habitat. [Visit the EFP website](#), or contact your local EFP advisor for more information.

## PLANTS BY SUPPLIER

SUPPLIER	TREES/SHRUBS							HERBACEOUS PLANTS													
	Willow (Salix sp.)	Saskatoon Serviceberry (Amelanchier alnifolia)	Twinberry honeysuckle (Lonicera involucrata)	Spiraea/Meadowsweet <sup>1</sup>	Common Snowberry (Symphoricarpos albus)	Thimbleberry (Rubus parviflorus)	Bunchberry (Cornus canadensis)	Sweet Coltsfoot (Petasites frigidus)	Heartleaf Arnica (Arnica cordifolia)	Strawberry (Fragaria vesca or virginiana)	Peavine (Lathyrus nevadensis or ochroleucus)	Violet (Viola adunca or canadensis)	American Vetch (Vicia americana)	Common Yarrow (Achillea millefolium)	Fireweed (Chamaenerion angustifolium)	Cow Parsnip (Heracleum maximum)	Self-heal (Prunella vulgaris lanceolata)	Yellow Rattle (Rhianthus minor minor)	Goldenrod (Solidago lepida or elongata)	Aster <sup>2</sup> (Aster, Symphyotrichum, or Eurybia sp.)	
ALCLA Native Plants										X		X	X*	X					X	X	
BC's Wild Heritage Plants							X	X	X*	X		X		X						X	
Beautiful Blooms		X					X		X					X						X	
Nanaimo & Area Land Trust				X	X	X				X				X			X		X		
Northern Wildflowers							X					X*	X						X	X	
Northwest Meadowscapes								X		X*			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nupqu Native Plants	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X			X	
Prairie Flora Greenhouse										X	X	X*	X	X						X	
Peel's/Green Flow Nursery	X	X	X	X	X	X	X														
Quality Seed Collections Ltd.			X		X		X						X						X		
Rooted by the River Nursery	X	X			X*																
Satinflower Nursery	X	X	X	X	X	X					X		X	X	X	X	X		X		
Streamside Native Plants	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X							X	
Tree Time Services	X	X	X	X	X																
Twin Sisters Native Plants	X		X*	X						X			X		X				X	X	
West Coast Seeds										X			X			X					

<sup>1</sup> Spirea: 3 species: Birch, Douglas, Shinyleaf;

<sup>2</sup> Aster: 7 species: Great Northern, Smooth, Lindley's, Showy, Alpine, Douglas, and Swamp

\*A closely-related native species is available

## SUPPLIER CONTACT INFORMATION

### ALCLA NATIVE PLANTS

<https://alclanativeplants.com/>

253147 Bearspaw Rd.  
Calgary, AB  
(403) 889-4795  
alclanativeplants@gmail.com

### BC'S WILD HERITAGE PLANTS

<http://www.bcwildheritage.com/>

47330 Extrom Rd.  
Chilliwack BC  
604-858-5141  
bcwildplants@gmail.com

### BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS

<https://beautifulblooms.ab.ca/page/index>

Leslieville, AB  
info@beautifulblooms.ab.ca

### NANAIMO & AREA LAND TRUST

<https://nalt.bc.ca/native-plant-nursery/>

#8-140 Wallace St.  
Nanaimo BC  
250-714-1990  
plants@nalt.bc.ca

### NORTHERN WILDFLOWERS

<https://northernwildflowers.ca/>

95 Laura Avenue  
Lively, ON  
705-618-4797  
hello@northernwildflowers.ca

### NORTHWEST MEADOWSCAPES

<https://northwestmeadowscapes.com/>

1240 W. Sims Way #218,  
Port Townsend WA  
360-504-6415  
info@northwestmeadowscapes.com

### NUPQU NATIVE PLANTS

<https://nupqu.com/native-plants-inventory/>

P.O. Box 946  
Cranbrook, BC  
250-489-5762  
nupqu@nupqu.com

### PRAIRIE FLORA GREENHOUSE

<https://www.prairieflora.com/>

94 - 126 Hwy 7  
Winnipeg MB  
204-886-2420  
info@prairieflora.com

### PEEL'S/GREEN FLOW NURSERY

Wholesale: <https://peelsnurseries.com/index.php>

Retail: <https://greenflownurseries.com/>  
35920 Pattison Rd.  
Mission, BC  
604- 820-7386  
info@peelsnurseries.com

### QUALITY SEED COLLECTIONS LTD.

<http://qualityseed.squarespace.com/>

P.O. Box 1531  
Kamloops, B.C.  
250-374-9689  
info@qualityseed.ca

### ROOTED BY THE RIVER NURSERY

<http://rootedbytheriver.ca/>

P.O. Box 8. 56 Clearwater Station Rd.  
Clearwater BC  
250-674-4089  
info@rootedbytheriver.ca

### SATINFLOWER NURSERY

<https://satinflower.ca/>

741 Haliburton Rd.  
Victoria, BC  
778-679-3459  
info@satinflower.ca

### STREAMSIDE NATIVE PLANTS

[http://www.streamsidenativeplants.com/streamside\\_inventory.html](http://www.streamsidenativeplants.com/streamside_inventory.html)

7455 Island Highway W.  
Bowser, BC  
250-757-9999  
richard@streamsidenativeplants.com

### TREE TIME SERVICES

<https://treetime.ca/>

3464 78 Avenue NW  
Edmonton AB  
1-844-873-3700  
sales@treetime.ca

### TWIN SISTERS NATIVE PLANTS

<https://www.twinsistersnursery.com/>

2118 N Highway 29  
Moberly Lake, BC  
250-788-2244  
sales@twinsistersnursery.com

### WEST COAST SEEDS

<https://www.westcoastseeds.com/>

5300 34B Ave.  
Delta, BC  
1-888-804-8820  
customerservice@westcoastseeds.com

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Funding for this project has been provided in part by the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, and in part by the governments of Canada and British Columbia under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. Additional project support was provided by the University of Northern British Columbia. The program is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC.

Opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, the University of Northern British Columbia, the Governments of Canada and British Columbia or the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC. The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, the University of Northern British Columbia, the Governments of Canada and British Columbia or the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC, and their directors, agents, employees, or contractors will not be liable for any claims, damages, or losses of any kind whatsoever arising out of the use of, or reliance upon, this information.

