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Good practice 9



Selection of nectariferous species



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Bees ask for help - a campaign to protect the living environment of bees and other pollinators financed within the framework of the Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2009-2014..





Ornamental varieties of fruit trees fit well in the Polish landscape



Garden lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*) is often visited by bees and bumblebees



Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) requires fertile and moist soil

Selection of nectariferous species

To create greenery in our surroundings usually are used perennials, mainly shrubs and trees. Many of these are nectariferous species with an interesting design and beautiful flowers. Especially recommendable are native species which are part of the Polish landscape and culture. It will be difficult to avoid the use of plants of foreign origin but in many cases there is no need to abandon them. Do not plant invasive species: black locust (called acacia), boxelder maple, as well as perennials: coneflowers, goldenrods (giant goldenrod and Canadian goldenrod). These plants, despite the production of large amounts of nectar, displace native species leading to changes in entire ecosystems.

When selecting species for planting should be taken into consideration their target size, strength, growth, habitat and climatic conditions, resistance to disease and pollution, the presence of thorns and toxic fruit, as well as the historical context of the site and the functions they have to perform. In the case of the creation of green friendly for animals, mainly for bees, you need to consider the wealth of flowers in pollen and nectar and the time of flowering.

The trees intended for planting should be at least twice seedlings (transplanted) with a trunk circuit of at least 10 - 12 cm and dense root system (best to set the plants in containers or packages for seedlings). Planting should be done in early spring or autumn. The diameters of the holes for planting should be adapted to the size of the root ball. After filling up the root, surface of the ground should be formed in the shape of the bowl to drop toward the trunk, so as to gather rainwater.

Cutting stem should be tied to 2 or 3 stakes using a wide strip of material (eg webbing) or using so-called rubber cord. Placed plants should be watered during droughts and we should control their development (trim regrowth of roots or faulty branches).

Also, in the case of shrubs and perennials should be selected good quality material without evidence of disease with a thickened root system, preferably growing in containers. Such plants can be planted throughout the year (except during severe frosts).

When we want to use non-woven materials that inhibit weed growth, it should be spread over compensated and free of weeds flowerbed before planting the plants. The non-woven fabric should be attached with wire pins, and after planting the plants sprinkle with wood chips or bark. All plants should be profusely watered after planting.

- **Large leafy trees:** English and Irish oak, European ash, horse-chestnut, red horse-chestnut, Norway maple, maple, small-leaved lime and large-leaved lime, London plane, crack and white willow.
- **Smaller trees:** fruit trees, including fruit trees varieties: Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) 'Chanticleer'; 'Green Column' maple; myrobalan plum 'Pissardii'; sour cherry 'Umbraculifera' and Japanese bush cherry 'Amanogawa'; apple-tree: 'Adirondack', 'John Downie', 'Ola', 'Royal Beauty'; mountain ash, hawthorn 'Paul's Scarlet' (*Crataegus × media*).
- **Shrubs:** rose 'nozomi', rugosa rose 'Rubra', garden lavender, cotoneaster 'Parkteppich', horizontal cotoneaster, *Chaenomeles japonica*, Japanese meadowsweet, 'Goldflame', mountain and golden currant, Thunberg's barberry, butterfly-bush, Border Forsythia, *Weigela*, common heather, garland flower, Fuzzy Deutzia.
- **Climbers:** American Trumpet Vine, Wisteria, Virginia Creeper, common ivy, Boston Ivy.
- **Perennials:** wild thyme, purple loosestrife, Fassen catmint, woodland sage, peppermint, eastern purple coneflower, tufted phlox, blue bugle, alpine aster, butterfly stonecrop, *Veronica spicata*.
- **Hedges:** hornbeam, beech, yew, wild privet, *Spiraea*.

More information on the selection of plants can be found on website of the Polish Nurserymen Association: www.zszp.pl.



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