

Attracting Hummingbirds



Humming birds are breathtaking visitors to our gardens. Everyone remembers when they see one. To invite these enchanting guests back to your garden again and again, you need to provide both food and shelter. Hummingbirds are prodigious feeders, eating half their weight in food each day. That would be like an average human adult eating 100 pounds of food every day! Hummingbirds rely on nectar and insects for protein. They prefer brightly colored red, pink and orange blossoms. Plant a wide assortment of successive blooming flower to attract humming birds for a long time.

Food Plants

Lantana
Butterfly Bush
Impatiens
Lupine
Petunia
Coral Bells
Columbine
Red Hot Poker
Bee Balm
Beard Tongue
Agastache
Hollyhock
Aloe
Alstromeria
Butterfly Weed
Spider Flower
Foxglove
Gladiolas
Lobelia
Lupine
Geranium
Sage
Veronica
Zinnia
Trumpet Creeper
Honeysuckle



Shelter Plants

Honeysuckle
Trumpet Vine
Butterfly Bush
Red Bud
Flowering Quince
Hibiscus
Lantana
Lavender
Currant
Lilac
Weigela
Moss

Fuchsia

Fuchsias are one of the very best plants for attracting hummingbirds. In our region, they are grown as annuals and often placed in hanging baskets. They produce bright, showy flowers from spring to fall. Hang them on the porch or patio to encourage hummingbirds to feed there.

Hummingbird Feeders

- Provide a sugar-water solution of one part sugar four parts water. Keep solution out during spring and summer and remove during the fall.
- Don't use honey as a sweetener because it can harbor fungi that are harmful to hummingbirds
- Place feeders in shade about 15 feet from cover and away from potential predators like cats
- Use a bee guard at the end of the tube to discourage bees.