

Xerces Society Pollinator Conservation Program Recommended Plants to Support Pollinators in California Almond Orchards

The following lists of plants are indigenous to, or easily grown in, areas of California where almonds are produced (Major Land Resource Areas 17 and 18). These plants flower early in the season to support early emerging bees when almonds are finished blooming.

Native shrubs for interior of orchard:

The following shrubs are recommended for planting in the interior of orchards, in spaces between existing almond trees, or as replacements for almond trees that have been removed. They are at least moderately shade tolerant, and can withstand a variety of irrigation regimes.

Latin Name	Common Name	Latin Name	Common Name
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Western Redbud	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	Mock Orange
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Oregon Grape	<i>Eriodictyon californicum</i>	Yerba Santa
<i>Prunus illicifolia</i>	Hollyleaf Cherry	<i>Ceanothus integerrimus</i>	Deerbrush

Cover crops between rows:

The following plants are recommended for use as cover crops between rows. They leave behind relatively little biomass, and can be mowed or sprayed by early to midsummer.

Latin Name	Common Name	Latin Name	Common Name
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Hairy Vetch	<i>Trifolium obtusiflorum</i>	Creek Clover
<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	Crimson Clover	<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	Salt Heliotrope
<i>Nemophila maculata</i>	Five Spot	<i>Lupinus bicolor</i>	Dwarf Lupine
<i>Nemophila menzeisii</i>	Baby Blue Eyes	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California Poppy
<i>Phacelia imbricata</i>	Imbricate Phacelia	<i>Vicia atropurpurea</i>	Purple Vetch

Plants for orchard margins and along access roads:

The following plants are recommended for strip planting in areas such as orchard margins and along access roads or waterways. They provide nesting habitat, as well as sources of pollen and nectar, for early emerging bees.

<u>Wildflowers and grasses</u>		<u>Shrubs and trees</u>	
Latin Name	Common Name	Latin Name	Common Name
<i>Phacelia imbricata</i>	Imbricate Phacelia	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Western Redbud
<i>Collinsia heterophylla</i>	Chinese houses	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Oregon Grape
<i>Gilia capitata</i>	Globe Gilia	<i>Prunus illicifolia</i>	Hollyleaf Cherry
<i>Stachys ajugoides</i>	Hedgenettle	<i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i>	Buckbrush
<i>Phacelia tanacetifolia</i>	Tansy Phacelia	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	Mock Orange
<i>Scrophularia californica</i>	Bee Plant	<i>Eriodictyon californicum</i>	Yerba Santa
<i>Nemophila maculata</i>	Five Spot	<i>Ceanothus integerrimus</i>	Deerbrush
<i>Nemophila menziesii</i>	Baby Blue Eyes	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	Ocean Spray
<i>Triteleia laxa</i>	Ithureal's spear	<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>	Mules Fat
<i>Trifolium obtusiflorum</i>	Creek Clover	<i>Fremontodendron californicum</i>	Flannel Bush
<i>Lupinus</i> spp.	Lupine	<i>Salix</i> spp.	Willows
<i>Penstemon</i> spp.	Penstemon		
<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	salt heliotrope		

Wildflowers and grasses (cont.)

Latin Name	Common Name
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	Turkey tangle fogfruit
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California poppy
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted hair grass
<i>Nassella pulchra</i>	Purple needle grass
<i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i>	California meadow barley
<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	Blue wildrye
<i>Festuca californica</i>	California fescue
<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Idaho fescue
<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	Deer grass
<i>Stipa speciosa</i>	Desert needle grass
<i>Carex serratodens</i>	Bifid Sedge