

CULBOKIE GREEN POLLINATOR BED

Plant Profiles

1. **A r** *Ajuga reptans* 'Black Scallop' (*Lamiaceae*) NOT EDIBLE

H. 15cm x W .30cm

Fl. Bright blue flowers June to August

Ajuga reptans is a useful evergreen groundcover plant. It has bright blue/purple flowers in summer and provides a wonderfully rich contrast to the purple of the leaves.

Maintenance: No maintenance needed unless the plants become over-crowded and flowering diminishes.



2. **A a** *Allium atropurpureum* (*Amaryllidaceae*) NOT EDIBLE

H. 90cm x W .15cm

Fl. A dark red-purple, June-July

Allium purpureum is the darkest of all the alliums and in my view the most handsome. The scapes open flatly with an almost black central eye dotted throughout the umbel.

Maintenance: None needed.



3. B o 'S' *Berberis otto* 'Superba' (Berberidaceae) *NOT EDIBLE*



H. 2.5m x W. 2.5m

Fl. May/June, pale yellow flowers in spring followed by red berries

A medium-sized deciduous shrub with lax, arching branches. The velvety, red-purple foliage forms a pleasing contrast with its yellow spring flowers, followed by bright red berries. It is perfect for creating cover for wildlife and its flowers are a valuable source of nectar for pollinators. In autumn, the leaves turn to vivid shades of fiery crimson that will brighten even the dullest days.

This hardy *Berberis* likes full sun or partial shade and will grow well in any well drained fertile soils. The berries are pleasantly tart and make an excellent jelly due to the high pectin content. They can also be dried or candied for longer shelf-life and used as a substitute for cranberries. Historically, yellow dye was extracted from the stem, root, and bark.

Maintenance: *Berberis* are a great low-maintenance plant and usually require little care. Traditionally you prune annually after flowering by cutting back about a quarter of old shoots to the base to promote new growth, but you lose the berries which birds love. We are going to experiment with cutting back in February..



4. B c *Bergenia cordifolia* 'Bressingham White' *elephant's ears* (Saxifragaceae)

H. 30cm x W .45cm
Fl. April and May, white

The flowers of 'Bressingham White' appear in profusion in spring above large, leathery, deep green leaves that it retains throughout the year. The flowers themselves often have a pink flush - particularly when they first emerge or on younger plants, but when mature, they are a beautiful, clear white.

Maintenance: Bergenias can be left entirely to their own devices but they will look much smarter if the old dead leaves are cut out whenever they appear.



5. B w *Buddleja weyeriana* 'Sungold' (Scrophulariaceae)

H. 4m x W. 4m but easily maintained to 2m x 2m
Fl. July - October, yellow flowers with an orange centre

This is an unusual variety which came from crossing *Buddleja davidii* 'Magnifica' and *Buddleja globosa*. Throughout the summer it has clusters of golden yellow flowers at the ends of long, arching branches. The flowers have a deliciously sweet scent and are very attractive to pollinators. It is tolerant of most conditions but will be happiest in a sunny spot with soil that drains freely. *Buddleja* 'Sungold' is known for attracting bees,



birds, butterflies/moths and other pollinators. It is a caterpillar food plant, has nectar/pollen rich flowers, provides shelter and habitat, and has seeds for birds.

Maintenance: This shrub benefits from a hard cutting back to pairs of new buds after the frosts have finished in the spring. This type of pruning will not affect flowering, a late spring/early summer light pruning will actually improve flowering and prolong flowers later into the season.



6. C t *Carex testacea* 'hairy sedge' (*Cyperaceae*)

H. 60cm x W 60cm

Fl. Mid-summer, small brown flower spikes

Carex testacea has slim arching leaves, which start out olive green and become warm copper-bronze with maturity. The leaves look particularly striking when grown in full sun. In midsummer it bears small, brown flower spikes. Grasses provide valuable winter habitats for insects.

Maintenance: As required, evergreen sedges can be cut back up to 50% any time from April to July but not in autumn or winter. Lift and divide established clumps to maintain vigour.



7. Cl t **Clematis tangutica** 'golden clematis' (*Ranunculaceae*)

H up to 6m

Fl. August to September, yellow followed by decorative seedheads

In late summer and autumn, this clematis is covered in masses of yellow, lantern-shaped flowers with thick petals and prominent stamens. The unusual flowers hang down elegantly on long stalks. The blooms are followed by large, silky seed-heads which persist into winter and shimmer in the low winter sun, creating a second season of interest and providing nesting material for birds.

This plant makes a lovely climber for an informal or wildlife garden. Thrives in most well-drained, fertile soils and has a potential height of up to 6 metres.

Maintenance: It is often late to show signs of new growth in the spring. Can be cut hard back in spring or left to spread.



8. D I **Digitalis lutea** 'Straw Foxglove' (*Plantaginaceae*)

H 90cm x W 30cm

Fl Main flowering season late spring and early summer, but seedlings kept in pots and planted later in the year can give you an extended flowering period.



Digitalis lutea, the straw foxglove or small yellow foxglove is a species of flowering plant in the plantain family. *Lutea* produces slender spikes of small, pale lemon trumpet shaped flowers all the way down the narrow stems. Flowers: June, July, August, and September. These arise from a rosette of delicate mid-green leaves. It is a lovely, engaging plant which adds a natural grace to a border. This plant will provide nectar and pollen for bees and the many other types of pollinating insects.

Maintenance: Cut back the stem to the evergreen rosette in spring, or scatter seed around when ripe.



9. D f *Dipsacus fullonum* 'Teasel' (*Dipsacaceae*)

H 1.8m x W 60cm

Fl. July and August, lavender



A dramatic and beautiful native plant, *Dipsacus fullonum* creates height and architectural interest in the garden. In the first year evergreen foliage remains through the winter months, hugging the ground and preventing weeds. In the second summer, tall stems rise to hold spiny, flowerheads in shades of pale purple. After flowering, the heads turn brown and dry to retain their structure through winter. They look beautiful when silvered with frost or strung with spider webs on misty mornings. *Dipsacus* is immensely popular with wildlife: the flowers are a magnet for bees, butterflies, and other insects, then masses of tiny seeds are beloved by seed-eating birds, especially goldfinches. The leaves and plant structure are designed to funnel and

hold rainwater for several days, providing a useful micro-supply of water for wildlife. *Dispacus fullonum* is a biennial plant so will die back after flowering in its second year, but self sows readily ensuring a constant supply. The young plants are easily moved when small.



10. E r *Echinops ritro* 'Small globe thistle' (*Asteraceae*)

H 1.2m x W.60cm

Fl July - August, steel blue



The globe thistle makes a statuesque plant in even the poorest soil. Handsome prickly foliage in silvery green. Tall grey stems carry perfectly round balls of small, steel-blue flowers, in late summer. A great architectural choice for the back of a border. It's extremely attractive to bees, butterflies and other insects, and makes an excellent cut flower.

Maintenance: *Echinops* don't need any special treatment other than cutting back in the Spring. If clumps become congested, lift and divide them in spring.



11. E f 'PE' *Eupatorium fortunei* 'Pink Elegance' (*Asteraceae*)

H 1.2m x W.90cm

Fl July - September, soft pink



'Pink Elegance' is an upright, bushy, clump-forming perennial bearing beautifully variegated leaves, which are long and pointed, soft-green and edged with cream. From late summer into autumn dark flower stems bear loose heads of small soft pink flowers that open with time into a fluffy head. Stands well into the winter and looks wonderful when covered with frost. Very attractive to bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects. Prune back to 4 to 8 inches above the ground in early spring.

Maintenance: Prune back to 4 to 8 inches above the ground in early spring.



12. E v *Echium vulgare* 'Viper's bugloss' (*Boraginaceae*)

H: 0.8m, W: 0.2m

Fl: Blue/pink. May – Sept



This robust biennial plant is part of the borage family that is highly attractive to bees and other pollinators. The flowers start pink and turn vivid blue in a branched spike with all the stamens protruding. The leaves form a rosette at ground level and are hairy and slightly spiny. In ancient times the root was used as a cure for snake bites

Maintenance: Seeds develop at the end of flowering on the spiked flower head. Leave these overwinter to enable seed spread. Remove seedheads in the early spring.



13. e w euphorbia characias subsp. Wulfenii 'Mediterranean Spurge' (Euphorbiaceae)

H 1.5m x W. 1.5m

Fl. Electric green-yellow flowers in spring

Evergreen architectural plant with exotic gnarly reddish stems. A Mediterranean plant that does surprisingly well in our colder Scottish climate and adds a bright summer vibe to a garden.

Maintenance: flowered stems can be removed right to the ground in late autumn.



14. Fa s Fagus sylvatica 'beech' (Fagaceae) EDIBLE

H. 1 - 2m x W. 1m

You can have fun with your beech hedge. You could cloud prune it, which simply means cutting shapes like clouds into your hedge. It sounds difficult to do, but really it isn't. It would be fun to in part sweep the hedge down as can be seen in the picture below.



15. G 'R' Geranium 'Rozanne 'Gewatz' (*Geraniaceae*) NOT EDIBLE



H 0.5 - 1m x W 0.5 - 1m
Fl. May to October blue

One of the best known and most wonderful of geraniums. It produces lots of nectar rich flowers over a very long flowering period. A perennial plant that lives for years. It has large saucer shaped violet blue flowers, each with a white eye and purple veining. Rozanne has a spreading form and looks wonderful in naturalised planting schemes, where it provides fast-growing ground cover. It will flower throughout the summer above the mounds of slightly-marbled, deep green foliage. It dies back every autumn and reappears each spring. Maintenance: Divide in spring when plants become congested or to increase stock.



16. H s 'e' *Hosta sieboldiana* var 'elegans' (*Asperageaceae*) EDIBLE LEAVES AND FLOWERS



H 75cm x W.1m

Fl. June - July, white flowers

Hosta sieboldiana has bold leaves up to 50cm long all well placed seemingly in tiers to catch the light. Big leaves are the strategy this under-storey plant uses to catch what light is going. Large leaved hostas have a presence and we want to utilise this 'hey look at me quality' to give a low focus at the front of the border. Hostas are mid-summer flowering and h. sieboldian var 'elegans' flowers are of the palest of lilacs. Hostas are widely eaten in the Far East. We grow them at home as a salad ingredient.

Maintenance: Clear up last year's dead growth in spring.



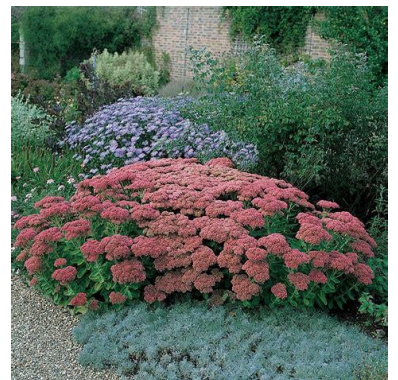
17. H t 'AJ' *Hylotelephium spectabile* 'Sedum herbstfreude Autumn Joy' (*Crassulaceae*) EDIBLE

H.45cm x W. 45cm

Fl. Pink flowers in late summer darkening to red-brown in autumn

The fleshy grey-green leaves of this sedum emerge as a rosette early in spring under the stiff brown stems and dried chestnut flower heads of last season's flowers. This is really a year round giver. It stands well without support, but to really ensure it won't flop, cut back the new foliage to four inches or so when they have grown to twelve. The flat flowerheads are first the same colour as the pale grey-green of the leaves, gradually flushing a red-pink, turning a deep burgundy as they age, finally fading to a winter chestnut.

Maintenance: Cut back old growth in spring as the new growth begins. Sedum stands well without support, but to really ensure it won't flop, cut back the new foliage to four inches or so when they have grown to twelve, known as the Chelsea chop.





18. K m Knautia macedonica 'Macedonian Scabious' (*Caprifoliaceae*)

H. 60cm - 80cm x W. 45cm

Fl. July to September, crimson

Very free flowering over a long period, *Knautia macedonica* has dainty curving stems and branches full of crimson pin-cushions. Each flower lasts about two weeks, but the plant produces them for months and months so brings long-lasting colour to the garden. A valuable wildlife plant as the flowers attract all sorts of butterflies and bees and the seedheads are a great source of food for birds in the winter.

Maintenance: Cut back old growth in spring.



19. L a Lavandula angustifolia 'Silver Mist' (*Lamiaceae*)

H: 0.5m, W: 0.5m

Fl: July – September

Lavandula angustifolia is a hardy, perennial lavender. 'Silver Mist' has silvery green foliage, which contrasts beautifully with purple flower spikes. 'Silver mist' is known for attracting bees, beneficial insects, birds, butterflies/moths and other pollinators. It has nectar/pollen rich flowers and has seeds for birds.

Maintenance – prune late summer or early spring removing spent flower heads and about 1" into green growth.





20. L v Leucanthemum vulgare 'Oxeye daisy' (*Asteraceae*)

H. 60cm - 80cm x W. 45cm

Fl. May to September, white

A familiar native wildflower with lovely, large, white daisy flowers which attracts bees and other pollinating insects in late spring and early summer. It's perfect for naturalising in a sunny wildflower meadow, and if deadheaded after the initial flowers have faded, it may go on to produce a second flush later in the season. The plant was used in traditional medicines to treat various health problems, such as coughs and asthma.

Maintenance: Cut back dead growth to the ground in early spring, dividing established clumps as needed.



21. L p *Lonicera periclymenum* 'late Dutch honeysuckle' (*Caprifoliaceae*)

H. 4m x W. 2m

Fl. July - October, white and red

Lonicera periclymenum is a shrubby climber, bearing fragrant, tubular cream flowers with a deep purple-red outer. It will quickly cover a wall or fence and is a magnet for garden wildlife. A popular honeysuckle blooming in summer through to autumn, it prefers a part shade to sunny location and a reasonably free draining soil. More often seen grown as a climber to cover a trellis or arch but can be used to great effect as ground cover. This plant contains essential oils as well as antioxidants such as quercetin.

Maintenance: Trim back in spring to maintain shape.



22. O v *Oregano vulgare* 'oregano' (*Lamiaceae*) EDIBLE

H 35cm x W 15cm

Fl Pale to deep pink flowers from June to September

Well-known in the kitchen, the herb oregano is less well used in the garden where I find it one of the most valuable of plants to be used as infill. The old flower heads turn first a rich autumnal mahogany and they stand well over winter. Cut down when new growth begins.

Maintenance: Cut down when new growth begins.



23. P r *Phlomis russeliana* 'Turkish sage' (*Lamiaceae*)

H 90cm x W 70cm (spreading)

Fl May to July, soft yellow

A handsome plant with a long season of interest, *Phlomis russeliana* is a herbaceous perennial with a very upright, clump-forming habit. The large, heart-shaped leaves are grey-green with a rough texture, forming a dense, weed-suppressing mound. From May to July, soft yellow, sage-like flowers are borne in whorls around the stiff, upright, leafy stems. The seed-heads, first green, later brownish, persist into winter.

Maintenance: *Phlomis russeliana* is a relatively low-maintenance plant that does not require extensive pruning or cutting back. Occasional deadheading and light pruning can help promote bushier growth and encourage more blooms, while dividing can be done every few years to rejuvenate the plant. It's an energetic plant and bay need to be checked.



24. P a 'F' *Persicaria amplexicaulis* 'Firetail' (*Polygonaceae*)

H. 1.2m x W. 1.2m

Fl. Magenta from June - November

The flowers of this persicaria are a particular vibrant shade of pink, with rich yellow-orange undertones, much more attractive than you might think. It flowers and flowers and can do that year in year out. It bulks up quickly and will move through the bed. The leaves curve over themselves like a greyhound lying down and look fresh well into autumn.

Maintenance: Lift and split in spring as necessary. A quick establishing muscular plant.



25. S b 'LE' Stachys byzantina 'Lamb's Ears' (*Lamiaceae*) NOT EDIBLE

H 60cm x W 20cm

Fl Pink flowers in June and July

It is grown more often used as a ground cover and for its velvet soft leaves rather than its flowers, even though the flowers are just as attractive with their white grey calyx's and tufts of random miniature blooms. The flowers are covered in bees from dawn to dusk. Maintenance: Split when needed in spring.

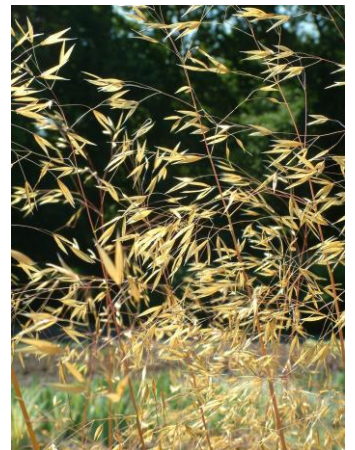


26. T g Tiarella grandiflora 'foam flower' (*Saxifragaceae*) NOT EDIBLE

H 0.8m x W 0.3m

Fl. Cream flowers in spring

T grandiflora prefers shade to sun and a soil that doesn't dry out. Cordifolia means heart shaped and refers to the leaves which are often blotched or have a central spine to the leaf mahogany coloured. The leaves can colour well in autumn, a deep dark red brown.



The flowers flow like froth and this can be used very effectively to give lightness to a planting scheme. They go very well with ferns and hostas.

Maintenance: None needed.



27. V v Vericonastrum virginicum f. roseum 'Pink Glow' (Plantaginaceae) NOT EDIBLE

H 1.2m x W. 80cm

Fl. July and August, pale pink



Branching spikes of pale pink almost white, tubular flowers are held above whorls of deep green leaves in summer. Flowers are a magnet for pollinating insects. A great plant for adding late season colour and structure to the border.

Maintenance: A low maintenance plant, just cut back old growth in spring and divide clumps when congested.



Additional Bulbs:

28. **M a** Muscari 'Alaska' (*Scilloideae*) NOT EDIBLE

H 20cm x W. 20cm

Fl. April

White with the palest of pale blues with limey green tips. These muscari will over time spread happily through the planting and flower before the main growth of the herbaceous begins.

Maintenance: No need to do anything. Let them flower and seed and do their thing. The seed heads are translucent and daintily pretty.



29. **C s** Crocus sieberi 'Firefly' (*Iridaceae*) NOT EDIBLE

H 10cm x W. 5cm

Fl. February - March

A true herald of spring. The yellow base whilst in bud give them their name. They are a very pretty pale blue lilac with an orange throat.

Maintenance: None



30. N s Allium bulgaricum' (Amarallidaceae) EDIBLE

H 70cm x W. 40cm

Fl. April - May

Related to onions, but smells honey-sweet. It has unusual pendant flowers and is a tall plant for the time of year. It comes back year after year.

Maintenance: None

