

Bee Pasture—McDowell County, NC

07Oct17

Listed by first bloom time for McDowell County, NC---varies +- 1 month (elevation, yearly variations, etc.)

Red---Plant native to McDowell County Black---Plant exotic or foreign to McDowell County

January

Recommended:

Silver Maple (*Acer saccharum*) Deciduous tree (50-75'), pollen ***** nectar ** 1 tree/hive.

Very Good:

Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis* spp., including *vernalis*) Deciduous shrub (10-12') bloom 4-6 weeks, pollen* nectar* (Witch Hazel species other than *H. virginiana* bloom January---March.

Winter Jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*) Deciduous climbing shrub (4-6') bloom Nov-Mar, pollen** nectar** Does not contain toxic alkaloids like the native Carolina Jasmine does.

February

Recommended:

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) Deciduous tree (50-70'), bloom 40 days, pollen*** nectar *** 1 tree/hive.

American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*) Deciduous shrub (15-20'), pollen **** nectar none 1 shrub/hive.

Snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*) Perennial bulb (4-7"), pollen*** nectar** 30 bulbs/hive.

Crocus (*Crocus* spp.), Blub (2-4"), pollen *** nectar **

(early bloomers: *C. chrysanthus*, Cream Beauty & *C. tommasinianus*) 30 bulbs/hive.

Very Good:

Hellebore (*Helleborus foetidus*) Evergreen Perennial (18-20"), pollen *** nectar ***

Sweet Box (*Sarcococca hookeriana*) deciduous evergreen (2-3') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen ** nectar ***

Winter Aconite (*Eranthis hyemalis*) Bulb (4-5") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***

March

Recommended:

Pussy Willow (*Salic caprea*), Perennial, pollen **** nectar** {need both male & female plants}
2 shrubs (1 male & 1 female)/hive.
Sweet Breath of Spring/Chinese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera fragrantissima*),
Semi-deciduous shrub (4-6'), pollen**** nectar*** 1 shrub/hive
Japanese Quince (*Chaenomeles japonica*), Deciduous shrub (5-6') pollen** nectar***
(growing in meadow). 1 shrub/hive.
Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster horizontalis*) Semi-evergreen shrub (2-3'), pollen* nectar**** 2 shrubs/hive.
Enkianthus (*Enkianthus perulatus*) Deciduous shrub (5-7'), pollen** nectar*** 1 shrub/hive.
Black Alder tree (*Alnus glutinosa*) Deciduous tree (60-80'), pollen*** nectar none 1 tree/hive.
Ornamental Cherry (*Prunus 'Okame*) deciduous tree (20-30'), pollen** nectar**** 1 tree/hive.

Very Good:

Apple & Crabapple Trees (Domestic & Ornamental), Deciduous Fruit Trees, pollen*** nectar****
Apricot (*Prunus armeniaca*), Deciduous Fruit Tree (20-30'), pollen*** nectar**
Sweet Cherry (*Prunus avium*), Deciduous Fruit Tree (50-70'), pollen*** nectar****
Yoshino Cherry (*Prunus x yedoensis*), Deciduous Tree (40-60'), pollen** nectar***
Gooseberry (*Ribes grossularia*) Deciduous shrub (3-4'), pollen*** nectar****

Good:

Weeping Willow tree (*Salix babylonica*), Deciduous tree (30-45'), pollen** nectar**
Japanese Apricot (*Prunus mume*) Deciduous tree/shrub (20-25'), pollen** nectar**
Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) Deciduous tree/shrub (20-40'), pollen** nectar**
American Plum (*Prunus americana*), Deciduous fruit tree, wild plum, pollen** nectar**
Henbit Dead Nettle (*Lamium amplexicaule*) Perennial (8-10"), pollen** nectar**

April

Recommended:

- Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) Deciduous tree (40-60') bloom 10 days (27Apr-7May), pollen*** nectar***** 1 tree/hive.
- Tulip Poplar/Yellow Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) Deciduous tree (100-150') bloom 29 days (25Apr-24May), pollen*** nectar*****
- Sweet Cherry (*Prunus avium*) Deciduous fruit tree (50-70') bloom 5-8 days, pollen*** nectar*****
- Oak-Leaved Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) Deciduous shrub (5-8') bloom 7-10 days, 1 shrub/hive, pollen*** nectar***
- Ornamental Apple/Japanese Crabapple (*Malus floribunda*, early variety) Deciduous tree (20-30') bloom 7-10 days, pollen*** nectar*** 1 tree/hive.
- American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) Evergreen tree, (30-40') bloom 15 days (30Apr-15May), pollen*** nectar*** bloom 6-10 days 1 male tree/hive.
- Washington Hawthorn (*Crataegus phaenopyrum*) Deciduous tree (20-25') bloom 7-10 days, pollen*** nectar*** 1 tree/hive.
- Nevada Rose (*Rosa Nevada*) Deciduous shrub (5-7'), bloom 7-14 days, pollen*** nectar** 1 shrub/hive.

Very Good:

- Blackberries (*Rubus fruticosus*) Deciduous & evergreen climber, bloom 7-14 days, pollen*** nectar***
- Northern Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) Deciduous shrub (3-8') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
- Trifolium Clovers
- White/Dutch Clover (*Trifolium repens*) Perennial Legume (4-6") bloom 102 days (14Apr-25Jul), pollen*** nectar*****
- Alsike Clover (*Trifolium hybridum*), bloom 102 days (4Apr-15Jul), Major nectar source.
- Crimson Clover (*Trifolium incarnatum*), bloom 25 days (10Apr-5May), Major nectar source.
- Many other *Trifolium* spp., Major nectar source.
- Black Tupelo/Tupelo/Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) Deciduous tree (50-80') bloom 14 days (26Apr-10May), pollen** nectar***** Source of excellent honey.

Good:

- Wild Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) Deciduous tree (50-80') bloom 5-8 days, pollen** nectar**
- Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*) Deciduous shrub (10-15') bloom 7-10 days, pollen* nectar**
- Garden Strawberry (*Fragaria x ananassa*) Perennial (10-14") bloom 6-10 days, pollen** nectar**

May

Recommended:

- Common Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) Deciduous shrub (3-10') bloom 7-10 days, pollen**** nectar*****
2 plants/hive.
- Motherwort (*Leonus cardiaca*) Perennial (2-3') bloom 2 months, pollen*** nectar*****
6 plants/hive; excellent bee foraging plant.
- Alder Buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*) Deciduous tree (12-20') bloom 7-10 days, pollen**** nectar*****
1 shrub/hive; excellent bee foraging plant.
- Common Hollyhock (*Alcea rosea*) Herbaceous biennial (4-6') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar**
6-12 plants/hive.
- Honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*) deciduous shrub (6-10') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar**
1 shrub/hive.
- Little-Leaf Linden tree (*Tilia cordata*) Deciduous tree (58-80') bloom 7-10 days, pollen*** nectar*****
1 tree/hive; excellent bee foraging plant.
- Viper's Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*) Biennial/Perennial (12-31") spring & fall blooms, bloom 2 months.
Considered the best honeybee food source. Produces lots of excellent light amber honey w/
pleasant taste. Very slow to crystallize.

Very Good:

- Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster dammeri*) Evergreen shrub (3-6') bloom 7-14 days, pollen*** nectar***
- Mountain Ash (*Sorbus amurensis*, also *S. rufoferruginea*) Deciduous tree (25-30') bloom 5-8 days,
pollen*** nectar***
- American Mountain Ash (*Sorbus Americana*) Deciduous tree (40') Similar to *Sorbus spp.* above.
- Spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*) Perennial (2-3') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
- Sage (*Salvia officinalis*) Perennial herb (24") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar***
- White Sweet Clover (*Melilotus alba*) Perennial Legume (6') bloom May-Aug, major nectar source.
- Yellow Sweet Clover (*Melilotus officinalis*) Annual or biennial Legume (4-6') bloom May-Aug,
Prefers pH >6.5. Toxic when moldy. Major nectar source.
- Sweet Clovers (*Melilotus spp.*) Yellow & White, bloom 37 days (28May-4Jul),
Best honey producer & best honey is White Sweet Clover (*Melilotus alba*).
- Borage (*Borago officinalis*) Annual herb (18-24") bloom spring thru summer, pollen*** nectar***
Self-seeding annual (survives over winter).

Good:

- Common Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) Semi-evergreen shrub (8-10') bloom 23 days (8May-31May),
pollen** nectar***
- Common Grape Vine (*Vitis vinifera*) Domestic & Wild, Deciduous climber (5-20') bloom 5-8 days,
pollen*** nectar**
- Carolina False Dandelion
- Common Wild Rose/Virginia Rose (*Rosa virginiana*)

June

Recommended:

- Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) Deciduous tree (20-40') bloom 3 weeks (25Jun-20Jul), pollen** nectar**** 1 tree/hive; Best Honey in the World!
- Mexican Abelia (*Abelia floribunda*), Semi-evergreen shrub (6-10') bloom June to November Bloom 4-6 months. 1 shrub/hive.
- Inkberry/Gallberry (*Ilex glabra*) Evergreen shrub (6-10') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen** nectar**** 2 shrubs/hive; excellent honey producer (light color mild flavor); prefers acidic soil.
- Japanese Sweet Shrub (*Clethra barbinervis*) Deciduous shrub (10-15') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar*** 1 shrub/hive.
- Spiked Speedwell (*Veronica spicata*) Perennial (18") bloom 4-6 weeks, pollen** nectar*** 6 plants/hive.
- Bee-Bee-Tree (*Tetradium daniellii*) Deciduous tree (20-40') bloom 2-3 weeks, trees w/ male flowers are best, pollen***** nectar***** 1 tree/hive.
- Golden Rain Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) Deciduous tree (25-35') bloom 2 weeks, pollen*** nectar*** 1 tree/hive. Cultivar 'September Gold' flowers in late summer.
- Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*) Deciduous shrub (10-20') bloom 5-10 days, pollen** nectar****
- American Basswood (*Tilia americana*) Deciduous tree (60-120') bloom 10-14 days, major nectar source every 5-8 years.

Very Good:

- Chinese Chives/Garlic Chives (*Allium tuberosum*) Perennial (18-24") pollen*** nectar****
- Japanese Chestnut (*Castanea crenata*) Deciduous tree (40-80') bloom 6-10 days, pollen*** nectar***
- Buckwheat (*Fagopyrum sagittatum*) Annual (1-2') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar*** very good bee foraging plant (bloom begins 4 weeks after planting). Occasional severe allergic reactions in humans from eating sprouts, leaves, juice, etc.
- Hyssop (*Hyssopus officinalis*) Perennial evergreen herb (24") bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen** nectar*** Essential oil is highly antiseptic & cough suppressing. Imparts aromatic quality to honey.
- Spearmint (*Mentha spicata*) Perennial herb, (12-18") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**** Essential oil (menthol flavoring & insecticide).
- Rose (*Rosa spp.*) Wild & cultivated, Deciduous shrub (1-15') bloom 3-5 days, pollen*** nectar** Essential oil (aromatic).
- Lemon Balm (*Melissa officinalis*) Perennial herb bloom 45-50 days (summer), major nectar source. Delicate honey w/ light pink color. Essential oil.
- Phacelia/Tansy (*Phacelia spp.*) Prefers very thick topsoil, bloom 45-60 days, Excellent nectar sources.

Good:

- Butterfly Weed/Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) Perennial (12-36") pollen* nectar***
- Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Chinese Chestnut tree (*Castanea mollissima*) Deciduous tree (60')
- Mimosa trees (*Albizia julibrissin*) Deciduous tree (30-40') bloom 10-14 days, pollen** nectar**
- Bee Balm (*Monarda spp.*) Annuals & Perennials, pollen* nectar** Essential oil Thymol (antiseptic, insecticide, flavoring).
- Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia fauriei*, Fantasy) Deciduous shrub (15-20') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar**
- Thyme (*Thymus praecox*, & *T. vulgaris*) Evergreen Perennial (3-6") bloom 2-4 weeks, pollen** nectar*** Essential oil Thymol (antiseptic, insecticide, flavoring).
- Fireweed (*Chamerion angustifolium*, formerly *Epilobium angustifolium*) Perennial (3-9') bloom June-Sept, major nectar source. Prefers slightly acidic to alkaline soils. Very early succession species. Produces water white honey w/ mild flavor.

July and August

Recommended:

- Chaste Tree (*Vitex agnus castus*) Deciduous shrub (5-15') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen** nectar***
1 shrub/hive.
- Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) Annuals, pollen**** nectar*** 24 plants/hive.
- Russian Sage (*Perovskia abotanoides*) Perennial (3-5') bloom 4-5 weeks, pollen** nectar*** 6 plants/hive.
- Common Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) deciduous shrub (2-7') bloom 3-4 months,
pollen** nectar**** 2 shrubs/hive.
- Wingstem/Yellow Ironweed (*Verbesina alternifolia*) Perennial (3-5') bloom 4-5 weeks,
pollen*** nectar**** 6 plants/hive.
- Japanese Angelica Tree (*Aralia elata Variegata*) Deciduous tree (20-40') bloom 3-4 weeks,
pollen**** nectar*** 1 tree/hive.
- Bluebeard (*Caryopteris clandonensis* & *C. incana*) deciduous shrub (3-5') bloom 3-4 weeks,
pollen** nectar**** 2 shrubs/hive .
- Shining Sumac (*Rhus copallina*) Deciduous shrub (10-20') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar*****
1 shrub/hive.
- Japanese Pagoda Tree (*Sophora japonica*) deciduous tree (50-100') bloom 12-16 days,
pollen**** nectar**** 1 tree/hive.
- Goldenrod (*Solidago rugose*, *Fireworks*) Perennial, (2-6') bloom 67 days (8Aug-14Oct), blooms till frost,
pollen*** nectar**** 12 plants/ hive.

Very Good:

- Mignonette (*Reseda odorata*) Annual (12") bloom June to December, pollen*** nectar*****
- Boston Ivy (*Parthenocissus tricuspidata*) Deciduous climber bloom 1-2 weeks,
pollen**** nectar*****

Good:

- Button Bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) Deciduous shrub (5-10') bloom 2-3 weeks,
pollen** nectar***
- Sweet Pepper Bush (*Clethra alnifolia*) Deciduous shrub (5-10') bloom 8-14 days,
pollen** nectar***
- Flat-leaved Eryngium (*Eryngium planum*) Perennial (2-3') bloom 4-5 weeks, pollen** nectar***
- Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) Evergreen tree (20-80') bloom 3-4 weeks,
pollen** nectar***
- Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) Annul herb (24") bloom 4-6 weeks,
pollen** nectar*** Essential oil (flavoring).
- Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) deciduous climber (10-20') bloom 7-10 days,
pollen** nectar**
- Mountain Mint/American Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* & *P. virginianum*) Perennial herb
(1-2') bloom 2-4 weeks, pollen** nectar***
- Crape Myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*) Deciduous shrub (15-20') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen*** nectar**
- Dahlia (*Dahlia pinnata*) Perennial (3-7') bloom July to October, pollen** nectar**

September

Recommended:

PeeGee Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculate*) Deciduous shrub (8-15') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
1 shrub/hive
Seven Son Flower (*Heptacodium miconioides*) Deciduous shrub (10-15') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen***
nectar*** 1 shrub/hive
Stonecrop (*Sedum, Autumn Joy*) Deciduous perennial (1-2') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
3 plants/hive
Maackia (*Maackia amurensis*) Deciduous tree (30-50') bloom 10-14 days, pollen** nectar**** 1 tree/hive

Very Good:

Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia leucantha*) Perennial, (2-3') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
Onion (*Allium cepa*) Biennial bulb (1-2') bloom 1-2 weeks, pollen*** nectar****
English Ivy (*Hedera helix*) bloom 2-3 weeks, climber pollen*** nectar***
Chinese Sumac (*Rhus chinensis*) Deciduous shrub (15-25') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
Stonecrop (*Sedum spectabile, Matrona*) Perennial (18-30") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar***
Chinese Sumac (*Rhus chinensis*) Deciduous shrub (15-25') pollen*** nectar***

Good:

Anise Hyssop (*Agastache anethiodora*) pollen* nectar***
Giant Hyssop (*Agastache Mexicana, Blue Fortune*) pollen* nectar***
Ornamental Onion (*Allium aflatunense, Summer Beauty*) pollen** nectar***
Giant onion (*Allium giganteum*) pollen** nectar***
Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnate*) pollen** nectar***
Clematis (*Clematis x jouiniana*) pollen** nectar***
Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum, Gateway*) pollen** nectar**
Apple Mint (*Mentha suaveolens*) pollen** nectar***
Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*) pollen** nectar***
Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata & R. nitida*) pollen*** nectar*
Burnet (*Sanguisorba tenuifolia, Purpurea*) pollen** nectar***
Scaevola (*Scaevola aemula, Saphira*) pollen** nectar***
Sage (*Salvia, Indigo Spires*) Perennial pollen** nectar***
Stonecrop (*Sedum spectabile, Matrona*) Perennial, pollen** nectar***
False Starwort (*Boltonia asteroides*) Perennial (3-5') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Crested Cockscomb (*Celosia cristata, Prestige Scarlet*) Annual (1-2') bloom 4-6 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Cockscomb (*Celosia plumose*) Annual (12-30") bloom 4-6 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Autumn Crocus (*Colchicum autumnale*) Bulb (4-6") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Thoroughwort (*Eupatorium serotinum*) Perennial (3-4') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Morning Glory (*Ipomea purpurea*) Annual climber (10-12') bloom 4-5 weeks, pollen*** nectar**
Knotweed (*Polygonum affine var. Compactum*) Perennial (1-2') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Silver Lace Vine (*Polygonum aubertii*) Climber (20') bloom 2 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) Perennial (5-8') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Rosyleaf Sage (*Salvia involucrate, Rosebud*) Perennial (2') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Sternbergia (*Sternbergia clusiana*) Bulb (3-4") bloom 7-10 days, pollen** nectar**

October

Recommended:

Bush Clover (*Lespedeza thunbergii*) Deciduous shrub (4-8') bloom 3 weeks, pollen**** nectar****
1 shrub/hive.
Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*) Perennial (3-4') bloom 10-14 days, pollen**, nectar** 1 plant/hive.
Crocus (*Crocus speciosus*) Bulb (4-8") bloom 1-2 weeks, pollen*** nectar*** 30 bulbs/hive.
Thorny Elaeagnus (*Elagnus pungens*) Evergreen shrub/tree (8-12') bloom 2-3 weeks, 1 tree/hive.
Maximillian Sunflower (*Helianthus maximilliani*) Perennial (4-7') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar**
2 plants/hive.
Sage (*Salvia guarantica*) Perennial (3-4') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
(blossoms need cuts by bumbles), 12 plants/hive.

Very Good:

Onion (*Allium cernuum*), bulb, (18-30") bloom 10-14 days, pollen*** nectar***
Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia leucantha*) Perennial (2-3') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
Scarlet Sage (*Salvia splendens*) Annual (3') bloom 4-5 weeks, pollen** nectar***
Texas Sage (*Salvia coccinea*) Annual (24-30") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar***
Shasta Daisy (*Chrusanthemum maximum x superbum*) Perennial (2-3') bloom 2-3 weeks,
pollen*** nectar**
Japanese Anemone (*Anemone x hybrid, Honorine Jobert*) Perennial (2-4') bloom 2-3 weeks,
pollen** nectar**
Aster (*Aster laevis, Bluebird*) Perennial (18") bloom 2 weeks, pollen** nectar**
White Snakeroot (*Eupatorium rugosum, Chocolate; now moved to Ageratina altissima*) Perennial (3-4')
bloom 1-2 weeks, pollen** nectar**
poisonous (tremetol) to horses, cows, goats, sheep & humans.
Swamp Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius, Mellow-Yellow*) Perennial (4-6') bloom 2-3 weeks,
pollen** nectar**
Lion's Ear (*Leonotis leonurus*) Annual/Perennial (3-6') bloom 3-4 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Winter Savory (*Satureja montana*) Annual (10-16") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Lily of the Field (*Stenbergia lutea*) Bulb (6-8") bloom 2 weeks, pollen** nectar**
Glori Bush (*Tibouchina semidecandra*) Shrub (4-6') bloom months (Oct is best), pollen** nectar**

November

Recommended:

Fragrant Osmanthus (*Osmanthus fragrans*) Evergreen shrub/tree (10-20') bloom 2-4 weeks,
pollen**** nectar*** 1 plant/hive.
Chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum rubellum*) Perennial (18") bloom 2-3 weeks,
pollen*** nectar*** 3 plants/hive.

Very Good:

Tatarian Aster (*Aster tataricus*) Perennial, (5-7') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
Chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum pacificum*) Perennial (12") bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
Osmanthus (*Osmanthus armatus*) Evergreen shrub (6-10') bloom 3 weeks, pollen*** nectar***
Sage (*Salvia elegans*) perennial, (3-5') bloom 2-3 weeks, pollen** nectar***
Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) Deciduous shrub (10-12') bloom 4-6 weeks, pollen* nectar*

December

Other Useful Plants

Linden Trees other than American Basswood (European Linden Trees).
Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) wetland species.
Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*); excellent nectar source, not poisonous.

Poisonous Honey

- A) Ericaceae Family Poisonous plants: Mad Honey (Honeys with grayanotoxins. Can causes sickness & death in Humans). **NOTE: Sourwood, Carolina rhododendron, Flame Azalea & blueberry are also in the Ericaceae Family, but no toxicity is reported.**

Rhododendron ponticum (aka Common Rhododendron, Pontic Rhododendron).

Southern Europe & SW Asia. Kills honey bees *Apis mellifera*.

Rhododendron luteum (aka Yellow Azalea, Honeysuckle Azalea). SE Europe & SW Asia.

Andromeda polifolia (aka Bog-Rosemary). Northern Europe & Asia, NE North America.

Kalmia angustifolia (aka Lamb-Kill, Sheep-Kill, Calf-Kill, Pig-Laurel, Sheep-Laurel, Sheep-Poison).
NE US.

***Kalmia latifolia* (aka Mountain Laurel, Calico-Bush, Spoonwood, Ivybush). Eastern US.**

Produces very bitter honey

Non-toxic to honey bees *Apis mellifera*, but can make humans sick for a few hours.

Leather-Leaf (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*) shrub---probably toxic?

Marsh Tea Plant/Marsh Labrador Tea (*Rhododendron tomentosum*)---probably toxic?

- B) Honey with Strychnine-related Gelsemine: Gelsemiaceae Family

Yellow Jessamine/Carolina Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*) Pollen kills honeybees *Apis mellifera*, honey sickens & can reportedly kill humans.

- C) Other Poisonous Plants:

Monk's Hood/Aconite/Wolf's Bane (*Aconitum spp.*) Ranunculaceae Family. Plants are deadly poisonous, so honey from nectar is suspect.

California Buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) pollen is fatal to honeybees.

Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) pollen &/or nectar may also be poisonous (seeds are slightly poisonous to humans).

References

First Frost---(Marion) October 19-Nov 13

Last Frost---(Marion) March 29-April 20

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