



## Hummingbird Plants for the Carolinas

(Have brightly colored flowers, most are sun lovers and bloom prolifically in summer.)

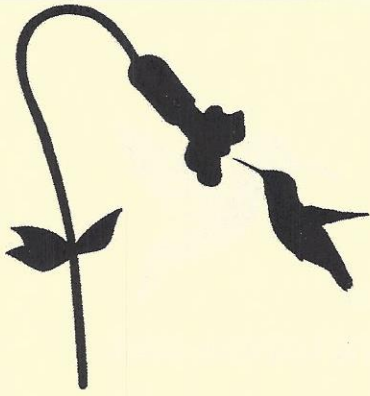
### Perennials:

- \*Anise-scented sage, (*Salvia Guaranitica*): many varieties, blooms spring to frost, 'Black and Blue' spreads
- \*Van Houttei's sage (*Salvia splendens 'van Houttei'*): several colors, more flowers in late summer, shade tolerant
- \*Pineapple sage (*Salvia elegans*): late blooming, fragrant foliage, draws winter birds
- \*Cherry Chief, Cherry Queen, etc. (*Salvia greggii*): more compact plant, can be found in a variety of reds as well as pink and white
- \*Turk's cap (*Malvaviscus drummondii*): unusual blooms
- \*Cigar plant (*Cuphea spp.*): 'David Verity' best
- \*Trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*): **native** vine
- \*Butterfly bush (*Buddleia*): many colors available
- \*Lantana (*Lantana spp.*): 'Miss Huff' best

### Annuals:

- \*Texas sage, pink or red (*Salvia coccinea*): reseeds itself with abandon
- \*Morning glory (*Ipomoeas pp.*): 'Cypress vine' best (reseeds), or 'Cardinal climber'
- \*Mexican sunflower (*Tithonia*): seed-eating birds love this too
- \*Impatiens (*Impatiens*): many varieties; shade tolerant, **native** 'Jewelweed' best

Revised by Susan M. Campbell March 10, 2018  
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# Top Native Plants for Hummingbirds

Lisa Tompkins  
NC Native Plant Society — Charlotte Chapter

**Trumpet creeper** (*Campylocarpos rotundifolius*) — Woody, deciduous, long-lowering vine with brilliant orange tubular flowers all summer long. Aggressive growth habit makes it difficult for small residential gardens. Best used on sturdy, free standing structures or in wild spaces. Important summer nectar source for hummingbirds.

**Crossvine** (*Passiflora foetida*) — Woody, evergreen vine with orange tubular flowers which occur heavily in spring and intermittently into fall. Somewhat aggressive but good for sturdy structures.

**Red Columbine** (*Xquilegia eanadensis*) — Easy woodland wildflower with orange and yellow flowers in spring/early summer. Reseeds but not aggressively. Tolerates sun-shade and a range of moisture levels.

**Red Beebalm** (*Aster laevis*) — Early summer flowering wildflower. Likes full sun, moist soil and good air circulation. Prone to powdery mildew so choose a mildew resistant variety. Hummingbirds and butterflies love it!

**Fire Pinks** (*Silene virginica*) — Occurs in open woods and rocky slopes. Fiery red blooms in mid-spring. Prefers dappled shade and moderate to dry soil. Lovely addition to the shade garden.

**Indian Pinks** (*Spikeletia moranensis*) — Spring blooming wildflower which does well in shady gardens. Red blooms with yellow centers in spring on 1–2' stems. Great addition to your shady garden.

**Cardinal Flower** (*Loasium axillare*) — One of our loveliest wildflowers! Bright red flower spikes in late summer. Naturally occurs in ditches, stream edges and other low areas. Grows in sun or shade. Cannot be allowed to dry out.

**Coral honeysuckle** (*Lonicera sempervirens*) — Crowded out by its invasive, fragrant, Japanese cousin, our native honeysuckle has much better manners and provides early nectar for arriving hummingbirds in spring. Red, tubular flowers on twining, non-aggressive vine. Works well in the home landscape on trellises, mailboxes or other structures. Often overlooked!

**Red bud** (*Aesculus pinnata*) — Large shrub/small tree which naturally occurs in the sandhills/coastal plain of the Carolinas. Good garden plant for the Piedmont with showy red flower spikes in spring. May drop leaves in summer so site it where it can be appreciated in spring but isn't dominant in summer. Likes part shade and moist soil. Grows to 15' tall and wide.

**Spotted jewelweed** (*Impatiens capensis*) Annual, wetland flower. Important summer nectar source for hummingbirds. Not suitable for most home gardens but a great addition to wild, shady wetlands.

Learn more by visiting our website at [www.ncwildflower.org](http://www.ncwildflower.org). The Charlotte-area Chapter meets the second Sunday of the month, 2:30PM, at McMillan Greenhouse, UNCC Botanical Gardens. Join us!