INTRODUCTION
We addressed two questions related to garden plants and bees:

- Which native plants are most attractive to bees and gardeners?
- Can knowledge of which bees visit particular native plants improve gardeners’ impressions of uglier flowers?

METHODS
We selected 23 native plants that:

- were tolerant to full sun and summer drought
- were reported to have value to beneficial insects like bees
- had potential to perform well in urban gardens
- were included in the second survey

We studied which plants were most attractive to bees in a separate field study (not shown).

Surveys:
- Created online surveys with photographs of each species, and disseminated it via email and social media.
- Recruited gardeners were asked to rank the attractiveness of each plant on a 1-5 Likert scale, as well as how likely they would be to plant each species in their home gardens.
- Survey one included all 23 plants.
- Survey two included a subset of 11 wildflowers identified as particularly attractive to pollinators, and respondents were asked to re-rate how attractive they found each species and how likely they would be to plant them.
- In both surveys, gardeners had the option to make comments on each species.

HOW LIKELY ARE GARDENERS TO PLANT FLOWERS? (SURVEY ONE)

Table 1: Likelihood of planting before and after learning about pollinators (survey two).

- Aesthetics
- Aggressiveness
- Pest concerns
- Establishing/growth
- Hardiness
- Deer resistance
- Aesthetics
- Aggressiveness
- Pest concerns
- Establishing/growth
- Hardiness
- Deer resistance

TOP GARDENER COMMENTS BY CATEGORY (SURVEY ONE)

Table 2. Common themes identified in the open-ended comments from survey one, with example and total counts.

- Likelihood of planting before and after learning about pollinators (Survey two).

- Combined with the results from our pollinator field trial, the top plants for both gardeners and bees are: Gilia capitata, Eschscholzia californica, Symphyotrichum subscapatum, Eriophyllum lanatum, and Achillea millefolium.
- Our second survey suggests that sharing a small amount of information on the benefits provided by bee-friendly plants can significantly increase how likely gardeners would be to use these plants.
- The comments revealed that:
  - Aesthetics and the aggressiveness/weediness of native plants are top gardener concerns.
  - Many gardeners need more information about these species, showing the need for increased outreach and education on native plants.