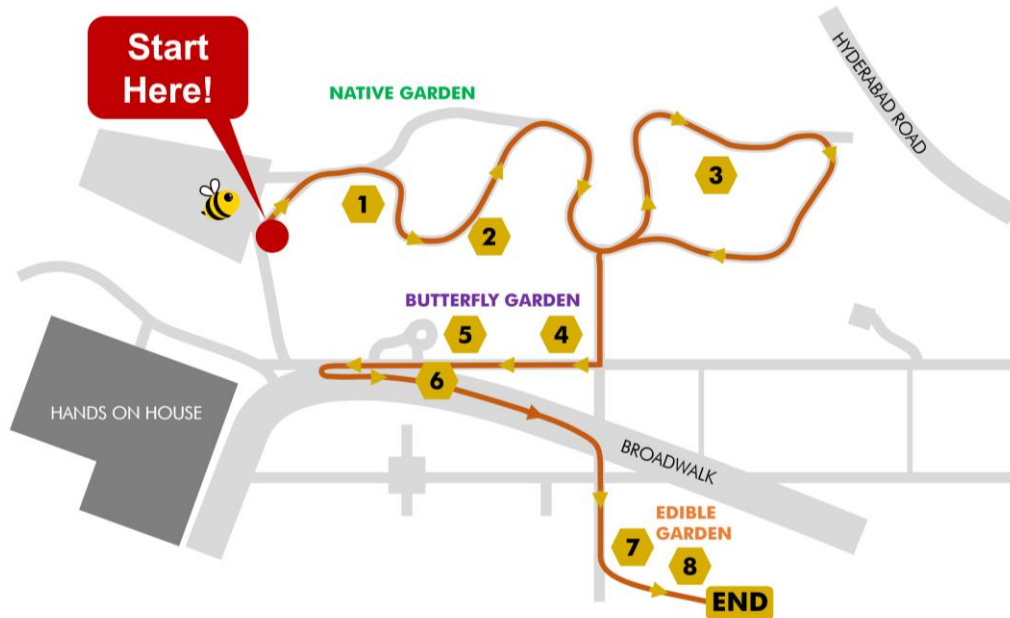


Bee Trail @ HortPark

Introduction

A buzzing venue to discover nature's industrious pollinators

ROUTE MAP



Enjoying the trail

- ❖ Follow the signs to learn about the roles that bees play in different habitats.
 - ❖ Spot wild bees foraging amongst the flowers, or nesting in the hotels.
- Most bees are small (less than 2 cm), so keen observation is required!
- ❖ Refrain from touching the bee hotels as this may disturb the bees.

LEGEND

Native Garden	1	Bees in the Native Garden
	2	Singapore Rhododendron
	3	Stingless Bee Hive
Butterfly Garden	4	Bees in the Butterfly Garden
	5	Indian Snakeweed
	6	Pink Coral Vine
Edible Garden	7	Bees in the Edible Garden
	8	Bee Hotels

Trail duration: 20 – 30 minutes

Suitable for all ages

*Bee-watching is best on sunny mornings;
this is when they are most active!*

Bee Trail @ HortPark

Plant & Habitat Guide

Look for these flowering plants to spot bee activity!

The Native Garden

1A) Bee-friendly plants

Common Name(s)	Scientific Name	Bees attracted
Red Leea	<i>Leea rubra</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Small carpenter bees • Reed bees • Pearly-banded bees
Singapore Rhododendron	<i>Melastoma malabathricum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large carpenter bees • Pearly-banded bees • Digger bees
Seashore Ardisia	<i>Ardisia elliptica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pearly-banded Bees • Digger Bees
Simpoh Air	<i>Dillenia suffruticosa</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large carpenter bees • Pearly-banded bees
Rose Myrtle	<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large carpenter bees • Digger bees • Reed bees
Nipis Kulik, Blue Strawberry Flower	<i>Memecylon caeruleum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaf-cutter bees • Digger Bees
Buas-Buas	<i>Premna serratifolia</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Small carpenter bees
Indian Camphorweed	<i>Pluchea indica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Pearly-banded bees

1B) Common bees



Clockwise from top left: 1) Broad-headed Leaf-cutter Bee visiting Nipis Kulik; 2) Broad-footed Carpenter Bee visiting Simpoh Air; 3) Small Carpenter Bee visiting Red Leea; 4) Andrew's Digger Bee visiting Singapore Rhododendron; 5) Pearly-banded Bee visiting Seashore Ardisia; 6) Red Dwarf Honey Bee visiting Indian Camphorweed

Photo credit: Zestin Soh

The Butterfly Garden

2A) Bee-friendly plants

Common Name(s)	Scientific Name	Bees attracted
Indian Snakeweed	<i>Stachytarpheta indica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloak-and-dagger bees • Digger bees
Common Leea	<i>Leea indica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Pearly-banded bees • Small carpenter bees
Golden Dew-drop	<i>Duranta erecta</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pearly-banded bees • Digger bees • Cloak-and-dagger bees
Mexican Coral Vine	<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Pearly-banded bees • Reed bees • Shoulder-pad bees
Blue Butterfly Bush	<i>Rothea myricoides</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large carpenter bees • Pearly-banded bees
False Heather	<i>Cuphea hyssopifolia</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Sweat bees

2B) Common bees



Clockwise from top left: 1) Pearly-banded Bee visiting Pink Coral Vine; 2) Andrews's Digger Bee visiting Golden-dew Drop; 3) Asian Honey Bee visiting Common Leea; 4) Reed Bee visiting Pink Coral Vine; 5) Cloak-and-Dagger Bee visiting Indian Snakeweed; 6) Large Carpenter Bee visiting Blue Butterfly Bush

Photo credit: Zestin Soh

The Edible Garden

3A) Bee-friendly plants

Common Name(s)	Latin Name	Bees attracted
Brinjal	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pearly-banded bees • Digger bees
Ladies' Fingers / Okra	<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood-boring bees
Sponge Gourd	<i>Luffa cylindrica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweat bees • Small carpenter bees • Large carpenter bees • Asian honey bees
Sunflower	<i>Helianthus sp.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asian honey bees • Stingless bees
Chilli	<i>Capsicum frutescens</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pearly-banded bees • Digger bees • Stingless bees
Waterleaf	<i>Talinum triangulare</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaf-cutter bees • Reed bees • Sweat bees • Shoulder-pad bee
Basil	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaf-cutter bees • Reed bees • Sweat bees • Small carpenter bee
Watermelon	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweat bees • Stingless bees
Maize	<i>Zea mays</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honey bees • Stingless bees
Indian Lettuce	<i>Lactuca indica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stingless bees • Sweat bees • Leafcutter Bees

3B) Common bees



Clockwise from top left: 1) Sweat Bee visiting Basil; 2) Pearly-banded Bee visiting Brinjal; 3) Asian Honey Bee visiting sunflowers; 4) Stingless Bee visiting chilli; 5) Shoulder-Pad Bee visiting Waterleaf; 6) Sweat Bee visiting Sponge Gourd

Photo credit: Zestin Soh

Learn more about bee hotels

1. What is a bee hotel?

Just as a bird house is for birds, a bee hotel is a man-made structure that provides an area for bees to nest in. The bees do not actually live in the hotel, but use it solely to raise their young. Bee hotels have been widely used in countries such as USA and the UK, but are relatively new to Singapore.



2. Do all bees nest in bee hotels?

Only leafcutter and resin bees (family Megachilidae) nest in bee hotels. These bees are solitary and naturally nest within small pre-existing cavities in the environment, such as those provided by the bee hotel. These bees are docile and are not aggressive around people.



Bees using a bee hotel in Singapore.
Left: Broad-headed Leafcutter Bee Right: Orange-winged Resin Bee

3. Can I build my own bee hotel?

Yes, bee hotels can be easily constructed using recycled wood and bamboo. There are plenty of guides found on-line on how to do this.

4. What else might live in a bee hotel?

Leafcutter and resin bees are seasonally active between June to October. Outside this period, other insects (such as ants and docile solitary wasps) and small lizards may live within the bee hotel.

Photo credit: Zestin Soh