

# The B-Lines Garden Press Pack

## Resilient Planting Pocket RRP209

### The B-Lines Garden



Designed by Hayley Herridge



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## Garden Information – summary

**Garden name:** Buglife: The B-Lines Garden

**Designer:** Hayley Herridge

**Category:** Resilient Planting Pocket

**Site location:** RRP209

**Cause:** Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust

**Sponsor:** Buglife - The Invertebrate Conservation Trust, Eden Project and Cornwall College University Centre

**In essence:** A bee garden for bee resilience

**Inspiration:** ‘B-Lines’ a network of ‘insect pathways’ stretching across the UK that will in time provide corridors of nectar-rich habitat for bees and other pollinators.

**Aims:** To reveal how any space can support bees with planting bursting with pollen and nectar and bee nesting habitat.

**Who is this garden for?** Communities

**Where?** London

**Relocation:** The garden will form two new exemplar pollinator gardens, one at The Tabard Community Allotments and the other on the Tyson Road Estate linking the Devonshire Road Nature Reserve and Horniman Museum gardens. Both situated in south London. This will take place as part of [‘Get London Buzzing’](#), a Buglife B-Lines project.

### Garden features?

- A range of garden plants and wildflowers which are important for wild bees, providing pollen and nectar sources for food, a range of flower shapes for all bee sizes and other uses such as nesting material.
- Examples of man-made bee habitat such as the bee posts, and a bee nesting box with cob bricks and sandy construction waste brownfield substrate providing nesting habitat for a range of mining bees.
- The B-lines network will be represented through ribbons of purple pollinator friendly flowers such as *Salvia* ‘Caradonna’

## Show guide description (note: plants have been updated since original draft)

This pollinator paradise promotes 'B-Lines', a network of 'insect pathways' stretching across the UK that will in time provide corridors of nectar-rich habitat for bees and other pollinators. Bursting with wildflowers and ornamentals, the garden reveals how any space can contribute to the network increasing flower abundance and habitat for bee resilience.

Ribbons of *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna' weave across the garden, while a bee friendly mosaic structure incorporates drought tolerant plants such as *Berkheya purpurea* (purple berkheya), *Daucus carota* (wild carrot) and to more typical herbaceous mixed-border style planting with plants such as foxglove, oregano and clover. Sculptural bee towers, cob nesting material and bare ground add essential nesting habitat for an array of bee species.

## Other messaging...

Many wild bees are sensitive to warming of the climate and will disperse from their homes to find more suitable cooler conditions to live. In a landscape of fragmented habitat this can prove challenging, which is why we need B-Lines – a network of insect pathways providing rivers of flowers across the UK that will increase bee resilience, helping them to thrive. Gardens bursting with flowers can be hotspots for bees, and if all our gardens were flower rich, we would provide a bee haven larger than all the nature reserves in the UK combined.

## Sustainability

- All plants have been grown in peat-free compost from nurseries in the south of England.
- Mulches include recycled construction waste and sand, alongside composted bark, a byproduct of British forestry industry.
- The wood habitat features have been created by the [WoodLab Studio](#) in Dartington, near Totnes, Devon. WoodLab support eco-forestry principles making bespoke products from wood. The wood selected had been rejected from other industries due to fissures and flaws making the perfect deadwood habitat for bees.
- Bamboo has been harvested local to the designer in Devon. The cob bricks have been handmade using local clay soil.
- Fencing has been made from coppiced hazel, a sustainable ancient woodland practice and the rope is made from 100% British wool.

## Main sponsor and charity cause: [Buglife- The Invertebrate Conservation Trust](#)

Buglife is the only organisation in Europe devoted to the conservation of all invertebrates. They are actively working to save our rarest little animals, everything from bees to beetles, worms to woodlice and jumping spiders to jellyfish. Buglife's aim is to halt the extinction of invertebrate species and to achieve sustainable populations of invertebrates.

### What are B-Lines?

[B-Lines](#) are a beautiful solution to the loss of wildflowers and pollinators. They form a blueprint for nature recovery, consisting of a connected network of 'insect pathways' running through our countryside and towns, along which efforts are being made to restore and create a series of corridors and wildflower-rich habitat stepping stones, linking existing wildlife areas together with brand new habitat for bees and other wildlife. This landscape scale network will support the resilience of bees and other wildlife providing them with better resources to face the challenges of climate change.

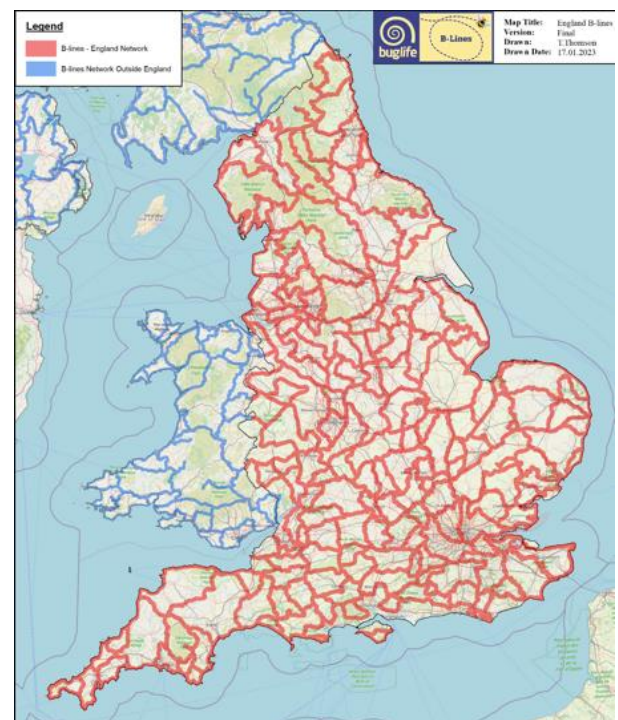


Figure 1: B-Lines network covers whole of UK

### Eden project and Cornwall College University Centre

Hayley is currently a student of garden and landscape design at the Eden project in Cornwall and has been kindly supported by the Eden Project and Cornwall College University Centre.



## Buglife: The B-Lines Garden

### Press release

#### For immediate release: Resilient Planting Pocket promotes bee gardens

The B-Lines Garden is a pollinator paradise, designed by Hayley Herridge as part of the resilient planting pocket category mentored by award winning designer, Tom Massey. The garden is inspired by the charity and main garden sponsor Buglife, and their solution to the loss of wildflowers and insect declines - 'B-Lines'. This is a network of 'insect pathways' stretching across the UK that will in time provide corridors of nectar-rich habitat for bees and other pollinators.

Bursting with wildflowers and ornamentals, the garden reveals how any space can contribute to the network, increasing flower abundance and habitat for bee resilience. Ribbons of Balkan Clary (*Salvia 'Caradonna'*) weave across the garden to symbolise the B-Lines, while bee friendly mosaic structure incorporates drought tolerant plants such as Purple Berkheya (*Berkheya purpurea*) and Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*), to more typical herbaceous border style planting with foxgloves, oregano and clover.

Flowers of all shapes and sizes have been carefully selected to provide pollen and nectar for a range of different bees, while other plants such as Lamb's Ear (*Stachys byzantina 'Big Ears'*), have been included to provide nesting material for bees such as the Wool-carder Bee (*Anthidium manicatum*) to line its nest. As well as plants, Hayley wanted to demonstrate how you can create wild bee nesting habitat in your own garden with a range of bee nesting examples such as sculptural bee towers, cob nesting bricks, sandy bare ground and tussocky grass.

To designer Hayley Herridge, a landscape with corridors of flowers is essential for bee resilience. She commented “...the resilience of bees and other pollinators is dependent on networks of flowers on a landscape scale. B-Lines is a beautiful solution to species declines and habitat loss and gardens can play a huge role in supporting wildlife. That is why I felt inspired to create a bee garden at the flower show, because if all the gardens in Great Britain provided for wildlife, we would create a sanctuary larger than all the nature reserves combined.”

The B-Lines vision was a response from Buglife to address habitat loss and fragmentation by relinking our best wildlife areas. The network can be used to focus efforts by anyone who wants to take action to restore and create habitat. In London, the B-Lines project ‘Get London Buzzing’, is working with communities to create opportunities for people who live and work in London to help pollinating insects in their local area.

Paul Hetherington, a director at the charity, commented. “When Hayley approached us to partner with the garden we were so excited as this is such a great way to showcase to people how we can all play a role in pollinator recovery no matter how small a space we have to offer. Hopefully this will be an inspiration to others to create beautiful and practical homes for nature.”

Following the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show The B-B-Lines ines Garden will be relocated through the Get London Buzzing project creating two new exemplar pollinator gardens, one at the Tabard Community Allotment and the second on the Tyson Road Estate linking the Devonshire Road Nature Reserve and Horniman Museum gardens.

Hayley is currently a Garden and Landscape Design student at the Eden Project University Centre in Cornwall who kindly supported the creation of the show garden.

## **Ends**

Sponsored by:

Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust – main cause, charity

Eden Project

Cornwall College University Centre

## Top plant profiles

Sulphur Clover *Trifolium ochroleucon*

A British native that grows well in a garden context, large pale yellow flowers attract bees and butterflies.

Lamb's Ear 'Big Ears' *Stachys byzantia*

A drought-tolerant 'must have' for a bee garden. Providing pollen and nectar and an excellent source of nesting material for the beautiful Wool-carder Bee (*Anthidium manicatum*), which will utilise the hairs on the leaves to line its egg cells.

Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*

An important wild plant in the British landscape providing food for around 130 invertebrate species. It is a great addition to a wildlife garden and just as at home in a garden border as a meadow. Look out for foraging Red-tailed bumblebee workers on this plant, providing a typical summer scene.

Wild Carrot *Daucus carota*

No wildlife garden would be complete without umbellifers. The large clusters of flat white umbels of Wild Carrot provide for a broad range of pollinators such as beetles, flies, wasps and small solitary bees.

Balkan Clary *Salvia* 'Caradonna'

A lovely salvia with upright busy habit loved by bees and other pollinators and a good tolerance to drought once established.



## **Plant list**

### **Shrubs**

*Crataegus monogyna*

### **Perennials**

*Berkheya purpurea*

*Briza media*

*Campanula lactiflora* 'Prichard's Variety'

*Cichorium intybus*

*Digitalis* 'Goldcrest'

*Eupatorium maculatum* 'Riesenschrim'

*Lamium orvala*

*Lotus corniculatus*

*Origanum laevigatum* 'Herrenhausen'

*Pilosella aurantiaca*

*Salvia* 'Caradonna'

*Seseli montanum*

*Scabiosa columbaria* subsp. *ochroleuca*

*Stachys byzantina* 'Big Ears'

*Stachys monieri* 'Hummelo'

*Teurcium marum*

*Trifolium ochroleucon*

### **Biennials**

*Daucus carota*

### **Annuals**

*Cosmos bipinnatus* 'Purity'

## Designer biography

A newcomer to garden design, Hayley is an ecologically focussed designer aiming to create immersive yet functional spaces which will provide clients with a deeper sense of connection with the natural world. Using her background in invertebrate conservation to drive design ideas, Hayley's planting choice reflects an interest in plants with beneficial qualities from boosting biodiversity to climate resilience, edible uses and a strong design aesthetic. Hayley recently set up a business called The Pollinator Gardener and is studying Garden and Landscape Design at the Eden Project, Cornwall.

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