

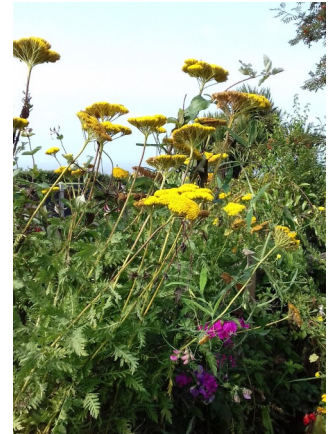
## Late Pollen and Nectar

Late summer and early autumn can be a very colourful time in the garden if you choose the right plants. The photo opposite shows my late bed which I plant with Cannas, Rudbekia and Dahlias of the Bishop type which have open flowers which the bees can feed on. There are also some Cosmos and Tagetes to provide some contrast to the dark foliage of the Cannas and Dahlias.



Close to this bed is my glorious yellow Achillia which also provides seeds later on.

The photo below the Dahlia on the left shows my new Aster frikarti to replace the one which died this year. All the Aster family provide wonderful colour at this time of year.



Below this is my favourite plant in the garden, Verbena bonariensis. It is always covered in bees and butterflies during the day and even some Humming Bird Hawk Moths. On warm nights it has a



strong scent which attracts moths. It likes to grow in poor soil, in full sun with no water. It seemed to like my gravel path so I have grown it as a hedge along the fence.

The pink flowers are Japanese Anemones and a Sedum.

None of these plants need much care and provide plenty of nectar.



Ivy is usually seen as a problem but having some in the garden attracts the Ivy bees which appear in September and feed furiously on the Ivy flowers. The Ivy also provides a habitat for many insects. Now is a good time to buy some of these plants fairly cheaply ready for next year.