



Hummingbird Guide

*Plants for East Idaho
that can attract hummingbirds:

Trumpet Vine
Honeysuckle
Flowering Quince
Fuchsia
Beebalm
Halls Honeysuckle
Red-hot-poker
Rosemary

Trumpet
Indian Paintbrush
Monkey Flower
Lupine
Cardinal Flower
Butterfly Bush
Lantana
Scarlet Sage



*Note: Hummingbirds have a well know affinity for red. Most plants listed have a flower or foliage that is a color between red and orange.

FEEDING: Sugar water is best when in the strength of one part sugar to four parts water. Any more may have an adverse effect on the hummingbirds; any less is unattractive to the hummingbirds. Honey-water mixtures are dangerous to the birds. Honey spoils quicker than sugar and contains bacteria that may cause a fatal fungal disease on the tongue. Red food coloring in your mixture is unnecessary and potentially dangerous to the hummingbird. Most commercial feeders are tinted red, which attracts the hummingbirds. Once they discover a feeder, they will continue coming back, regardless of its color.

PLACING FEEDERS: Place feeders near flowers and in the sun where they are most likely to be seen. Once one or more hummingbirds are in the habit of visiting the feeder, move to a more permanent location. Consider such factors as distance from house, proximity to cover, importance of shade, and competition between hummingbirds.

DISTANCE FROM HOUSE: Feeders should be visible from windows or other vantage points so that you may observe feeding and monitor feeders. Place near windows so hummingbirds may become familiar with glass and come to recognize it as a barrier. Windows sometimes appear to be clear. Red objects inside the window may attract hummingbirds. Some may try to fly through closed windows in order to reach the attractive object. This can greatly damage the delicate creatures. Some may also be frightened by their own reflection in windows. Some feeders provide suction cups so that you may attach them directly to your window.

Source: Ortho's How to Attract Hummingbirds and Butterflies

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