

# **Suggested Hummingbird Plants for Kansas**

## ***by Chuck Otte, Geary County Extension Agent, Retired***

*Hummingbirds will feed on more than just red flowers. Red simply grabs their attention. Quality and quantity of nectar is important! Most of these are also good for all pollinators.*

**Salvia** (*Salvia species*) - Traditional, such as Vista Red or Flare or some of the newer varieties like Lady-in-Red or Summer Jewel.

**Agastache** (*Agastache sp.*) - many different cultivars, both perennial and annuals.

**Trumpet Creeper or Trumpet Vine** (*Campsis radicans*)- native to Kansas but can be very aggressive. Needs a lot of space. Use with caution! (But hummingbirds love it!)

**Scarlet Runner Bean** (*Phaseolus coccineus*) - an heirloom climbing dry bean cultivar with red flowers. Beans are edible.

**Cardinal Climber** (*Quamoclit sloteri*) - climbing vining plant with red flowers. Very frost tender.

**Cardinal Flower** (*Lobelia cardinalis*) - A native perennial with brilliant red flowers. Good choice for damp locations.

**Beebalm** (*Monarda didyma*) - Very attractive to hummingbirds and pollinators.

**Butterfly Bush** (*Buddleia davidii*) - May be more attractive to pollinators than hummingbirds but a nice shrub.

**Hollyhock** (*Alcea rosea*) - A classic that's available in full size and dwarf cultivars.

**Rose of Sharon** (*Hibiscus syriacus*) - Shrub that blooms later in the summer - makes a nice screen.

**Canna** (*Canna species*) - Use red cultivars to get the hummingbird's attention and then other colors to add diversity.

**Zinna** (*Zinna species*) - A classic annual that's easy and adaptable. Full sun.

