

BLL Planting native species farmyard

A nature-friendly planting scheme is diverse and uses native species. When selecting the plants, the location of the farm (region), soil type and water management system are important aspects.

The BLL criteria for Dairy cattle state that native species (trees and shrubs) must be present in the farmyard. A hedge of exotic plants (e.g. conifers or laurel) may be “green” but does little to contribute to biodiversity. Native species are trees and shrubs that occur naturally in the Netherlands. Planting these species provides a habitat for more local fungi, algae, mosses, insects, birds and mammals to live on, in or near. Planting native species therefore has a higher ecological value.

A list of native species, categorised based on high-lying and low-lying Netherlands and soil type appears below.

High-lying Netherlands - Sandy soil

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Common oak | Elder |
| Silver birch | Creeping willow |
| Grey alder | Bird cherry |
| Beech | Cornelian cherry |
| Juniper | Holly |
| Rowan | Ivy |
| Wild privet | Honeysuckle |
| June berry | Old man’s beard |
| Common hawthorn | Crab apple |

Low-lying Netherlands - Clay soil

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Common hazel | Spindle tree |
| Field maple | Gooseberry |
| Common ash | Common barberry |
| Wild privet | Guelder rose |
| Common hornbeam | Blackthorn |
| <i>Field maple</i> | Common buckthorn |
| Common hawthorn and Midland hawthorn | Elder |
| Dog rose | Sweet briar |
| Goat willow | Wych elm |
| Common dogwood | Common medlar |
| Wild cherry (not on heavy clay) | Field rose |
| White willow | Crack willow |
| Purple willow | Small-leaved lime |
| Large-leaved lime | European white elm (|

Low-lying Netherlands - Peat soil

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Common ash | Grey willow |
| Elder | Honeysuckle |
| European white birch | Sessile oak |
| Buckthorn | Blackcurrant |
| Redcurrant | Eared willow |
| Black alder | Grey alder |

For more information about the best species of plants for certain butterflies or dragonflies, see the website of the [Vlinderstichting](#)