

FLORASCOPE

Occasional News from the Flora of Virginia Project

BEE

Ellison Orcutt on Heritage bee studies.



Listen as Ellison Orcutt (above, amid some Virginia Bluebells *Mertensia virginica*), a field zoologist with the Virginia Natural Heritage Program, talks native bees with entomologist Art Evans and WCVE producer Steve Clark. The conversation was a segment of "What's Bugging You?" Evans's weekly radio feature, which airs during NPR's *Morning Edition*. Orcutt's field work includes studies of Virginia pollinators and their relationships with plants. [Click to hear the conversation.](#)

PIX

The hunt for more images for the Flora of Virginia App



"NO IMAGE YET AVAILABLE." Know that screen from the Flora App? Losing those screens will be a work in progress for a while, but in early summer we'll be adding at least one photograph for around 450 species that have never had a photo op. Out of 3,163 species in the Flora, that'll leave just 250 that are imageless. Many of the new images are ones added in 2017–2018 to the Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora and provided for the App. Others were found by a team of volunteers who did detective work, looking for images of the plants on our most-wanted list. Among the species finally making the rotogravure will be *Tetragonotheca helianthoides*, or Squarehead (above, courtesy of the Digital Atlas, ©Nicole Knudson). These numbers don't include the species we'll be adding as we Keep the Science Current via our big update due out next year. Stay tuned!

MA!

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And visit the Flora Project at [Blandy's Garden Fair](#) over Mother's Day weekend, May 11 and 12. We'll be with the Piedmont Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society, in booth 39!

USE THE
FLORA APP
TO PICK
NATIVES FOR
YOUR SITE!

We're hoping to see you at Blandy Experimental Farm, Boyce, for their 30th Annual Garden Fair, benefiting the Foundation of the State Arboretum. The fair will be held Mother's Day weekend, May 11 and 12, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., rain or shine. We'll be in booth 39 and will demonstrate how to use the Flora App to select plants for a spot in your yard, and with some of the attributes you desire (color, type, height, etc.). Bring your phone or tablet with the App installed, and an idea or two about what kinds of natives you'd like to find! We'll use the App to come up with some candidates, and you can shop for them *at the fair* with vendors who carry natives. Click for [more information on the Spring Fair](#), including parking. See you there!



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