

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SEED

Most of the birds that regularly visit feeding stations are somewhat opportunistic feeders. This means that while they may prefer certain seeds or other foods, they will eat less preferred items in the absence of their preferred foods. However, because of their ability to move freely from one feeder to another in a neighborhood, the birds will usually spend more time and occur in greater numbers at feeders stocked with their preferred foods.

Although it is not possible to create blends of seeds to attract only a certain species or to exclude another species, having a mix with the seeds appealing to the birds you hope to attract is important. All birds and wildlife must eat. However, whether they eat at your feeder is, to some degree, controllable. For example, while breads and other pastry products can be used to supplement your seed mixes, they should be crumbled into fine pieces to avoid attracting the American Crow and European Starling. On the other hand, larger pieces of bread and food scraps may be used to attract crows and starlings, as well as raccoons, opossums, and the like. It depends upon what you enjoy.

Listed here are the various seeds that have been included in this year's seed mixes. Bird species which utilize each type of seed are listed. Species with a strong preference for that seed are shown in **BOLD** print with an asterisk. After noting which feeder species favor which seeds, select on the order form those mixes that seem right for your needs. We believe that all of the mixes are very good with minimal waste. Of course, we think "Our Own Mix" is the best!

BLACK OIL SUNFLOWER

Black-capped Chickadee
Evening Grosbeak
House Finch
Northern Cardinal
Purple Finch
White-breasted Nuthatch
White-crowned Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Blue Jay
Dark-eyed Junco
Goldfinch
Mourning Dove
Pine Siskin
Redpoll
Song Sparrow
Tufted Titmouse
Woodpeckers — most

STRIPED SUNFLOWER

***Blue Jay**
***Red-bellied Woodpecker**
Black-capped Chickadee
Evening Grosbeak
House Finch
Northern Cardinal
Purple Finch
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
White-crowned Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow

SUNFLOWER HEARTS

***Black-capped Chickadee**
***Pine Siskin**
Carolina Wren
Goldfinch
House Finch
Mourning Dove
Northern Cardinal
White-throated Sparrow

SAFFLOWER

***Northern Cardinal**
Blue Jay
Black-capped Chickadee
House Finch
Mourning Dove
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch

NYJER (THISTLE)

***Goldfinch**
***Pine Siskin**
House Finch
Purple Finch
Dark-eyed Junco
Song Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow

WHITE MILLET

***Dark-eyed Junco**
***House Sparrow**
***Mourning Dove**
***Song Sparrow**
***Tree Sparrow**
***White-crowned Sparrow**
***White-throated Sparrow**
European Starling
Northern Cardinal
Pine Siskin

CRACKED CORN

***European Starling**
***House Sparrow**
***Mourning Dove**
***Pheasant**
American Crow
Blue Jay
Brown Thrasher
Northern Cardinal
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Tree Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow

PEANUT PIECES

***Blue Jay**
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Woodpeckers — most

