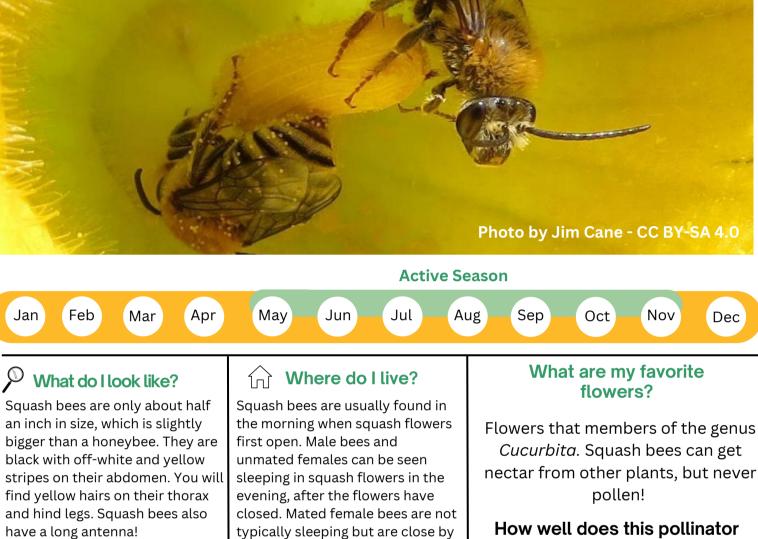
October P	toduce Spotlig	
Photo by Grey Geezer_CC Jan Feb Mar Apr	Planting window	Harvest window Jg Sep Oct Nov Dec
<ul> <li>Recommended Pumpkin Varieties for North Carolina</li> <li>Mini: 'Jack Sprat,' 'Mystic Plus,' and 'Field Trip F1.'</li> <li>Medium: 'Orange Sunrise,' 'Gladiator,' 'Howden's Field.'</li> <li>Large: 'Dynasty,' 'Kratos,' and 'Olympus Farmore F1.'</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Top Growing Tips</li> <li>Pumpkins grow best in warm weather because they are very sensitive to frost.</li> <li>The plant needs a consistent water supply while it's growing, preferably a drip irrigation system.</li> <li>Pumpkins are heavy feeders, so make sure to provide ample nutrition throughout the season.</li> </ul>	U       U       70-120         DAYS TO       DAYS TO         HARVEST       Warm or Cool Season Crop?
General Pumpkin Care Light: Given how much pumpkins love warm weather, they need full sunlight during their growing season. Soil: Pumpkins thrive in soil with good water filtration and water holding capacity. The soil pH should ideally be between 5.8-6.6. Spacing: Space plants 48" apart in open field or cleared area. They WILL fill in any given space.	<ul> <li>Disease &amp; Pests</li> <li>Pest: Cucumber beetle, squash bugs, pickle worms, and aphids.</li> <li>Disease: Powdery mildew, downy mildew, and bacterial wilt.</li> <li>Management: Develop a preventative spray plan to ensure your plants are protected from pest and desease. Regular crop rotation and soil with good drainage can also help prevent disease.</li> </ul>	Warm       Cool         Does this plant grow well in a container?         Ves!         Fair         Not Well

Notification a state of inversity and Notificational origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.





## **October Pollinator Pairings: Squash Bees**



## How can you help me?

You can provide patches of bare soil for bees to use as nesting sites. Bee nests tend to be close to the surface of the soil, so tilling can accidentally harm bees. Planting pumpkins, squash, cucumbers, melons, and related plants near bare patches is also helpful. Try to limit the use of insecticides and fungicides, especially when the host plants are blooming.

## How do I pair with the produce in the spotlight?

making their nests!

As their name suggests, squash bees pollinate squash and squash relatives, specifically members of the genus *Cucurbita*. Unlike most solitary bee species, both males and females contribute to the pollination process. Since males emerge first from the nests, they establish territories around squash flowers to find female squash bees and pollinate them in the process.

## How well does this pollinator pollinate other fruit and vegetable crops?



North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.



