

# Life in your Backyard

## Some interesting scents of flowers

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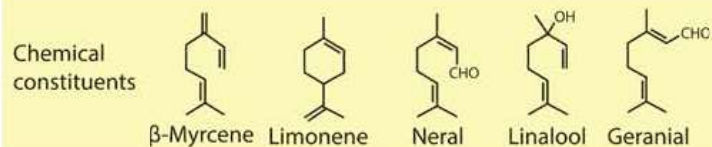
Here are some of the most common flower scents that are pleasing to us. How many of these do you recognise?



### CITRUSY

An odour like that of oranges or lemons, produced by a combination of compounds such as  $\beta$ -myrcene, limonene, linalool and citrals. Seen in the fragrance of flowers of citronella, lemongrass and bergamot.

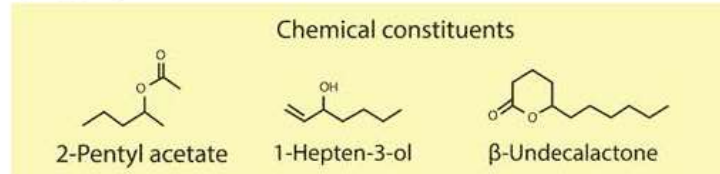
Bee on citrus blossoms



A ylang ylang flower

### FRUITY

Sweet, pleasant and strong odours arising due to compounds such as alcohols, esters, and lactones. They sometimes act as long-range cues, allowing detection of flowers from a distance.

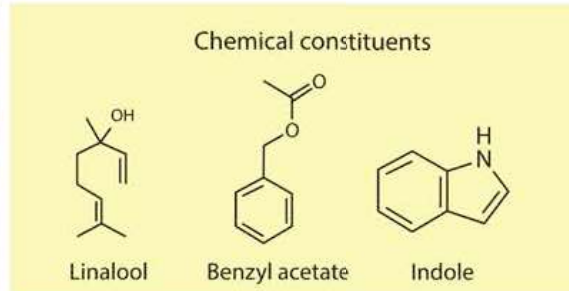


### WHITE FLORAL OLFACTORY IMAGE

Compounds responsible for this fragrance include linalool with aromatic esters like benzyl acetate, methyl benzoate; and nitrogenous indole and oximes. Mostly found in night blooming white flowers, such as Jasmine, Evening Primrose, etc., to attract nocturnal pollinators.



A jasmine flower visited by a moth



Flowers and aerial parts of rosemary

### CAMPHOROUS

A sharp and cooling fragrance produced by compounds such as camphor, 1,8-cineole, and pinenes. Seen in the fragrance of the flowers, leaves, and stems of rosemary.



A rose flower

### ROSE

A unique smell produced by chemicals like rose oxides,  $\beta$ -damascenone, phenyl ethanol, geraniol, nerol, and citronellol. The leaves and stems of geranium (*Pelargonium graveolens*) also produce these compounds. Historically, one of the most preferred scents in perfumes, foods, and ceremonies. The perfume (attar) made from rose petals is highly valued in the fragrance industry.

