

How to attract Butterflies

A List of Plants for Butterflies and their Caterpillars

Butterflies use two different types of plants - those that provide nectar for the adults to eat (nectar plant), and those that provide food for their offspring (host plant). **It is best to find out which plant species are native to your area and plant those rather than exotic species.**

Below are list of the more common butterflies with their host and nectar plants.

| <u>BUTTERFLY</u> | <u>BUTTERFLY NECTAR SOURCE</u> | <u>CATERPILLAR HOST PLANT</u> |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| American Painted Lady | Aster, Dogbane, Goldenrod, Mallow, Privet, Vetch | Everlasting, Daisy, Burdock |
| American Snout | Aster, Dogbane, Dogwood, Goldenrod, Pepperbush | Hackberry |
| Anise Swallowtail | Buddleia, Joe Pye Weed | Queen Anne's Lace |
| Baltimore Checkerspot | Milkweed, Viburnum, Wild Rose | Turtlehead, False Foxglove, Plantain |
| Black Swallowtail | Aster, Buddleia, Joe Pye Weed, Alfalfa | Parsley, Dill, Fennel |
| Clouded Sulphur | Goldenrod, Grape Hyacinth, Marigold | Clover |
| Cloudless Sulphur | Zinnia, Butterfly Bush, Cosmos, Cushion Mum | Cassia, Apple, Clover |
| Comma | Butterfly Bush, Dandelion | Elm, Hops, Nettle |
| Common Buckeye | Carpetweed | Snapdragon, Loosestrife |
| Common Checkered Skipper | Shepherd's needles, Fleabane, Aster, Red Clover | Mallow/Hollyhock |
| Common Sulphur | Aster, Dogbane, Goldenrod | Vetch |
| Common Wood-nymph | Purple Coneflower | Purpletop Grass |
| Eastern Pygmy Blue | Salt Bush | Glasswort |
| Eastern Tailed Blue | Dogbane | Clover, Peas |
| Falcate Orangetip | Mustard, Strawberry, Chickweed, Violet | Rock Cress, Mustard |
| Giant Swallowtail | Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia | Citrus |
| Gorgone Checkerspot | Sunflower, Goldenrod | Sunflower |
| Gray Hairstreak | Thistle, Ice Plant | Mallow/Hollyhock, Clover, Alfalfa |
| Great Spangled Fritillary | Thistle, Black-eyed Susan, Milkweed, Ironweed | Violet |
| Greater Fritillary | Joe Pye Weed | Violet |
| Gulf Fritillary | Joe Pye Weed | Pentas, Passion-vine |
| Hackberry Emperor | Sap, Rotting fruit, Dung, Carrion | Hackberry |
| Little Glassywing | Dogbane, Zinnia | Purpletop Grass |
| Little Yellow | Clover | Cassia, Clover |

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|------------------------|--|---|
| Monarch | Dogbane, Buddleia | Milkweed |
| Mourning Cloak | Butterfly Bush, Milkweed, Shasta Daisy, Dogbane | Willow, Elm, Poplar, Birch, Nettle, Wild Rose |
| Orange Sulphur | Alfalfa, Aster, Clover, Verbena | Vetch. Alfalfa, Clover |
| Orange-barred Sulphur | Many plants | Cassia |
| Painted Lady | Aster, Zinnia | Thistle, Daisy, Mallow/Hollyhock, Burdock |
| Pearl Crescent | Dogbane | Aster |
| Pipevine Swallowtail | Buddleia | Dutchman's Pipe, Pipevine |
| Polydamus Swallowtail | Buddleia | Pipevine |
| Queen | Milkweed, Beggar-tick, Daisy | Milkweed |
| Question Mark | Aster, Milkweed, Sweet Pepperbush | Hackberry, Elm, Nettle, Basswood |
| Red Admiral | Stonecrop, Clover, Aster, Dandelion, Goldenrod, Mallow | Nettle |
| Red-spotted Purple | Privet, Poplar | Black Cherry, Willow, Poplar |
| Silver-spotted Skipper | Dogbane, Privet, Clover, Thistle, Winter Cress | Black Locust, Wisteria |
| Silvery Checkerspot | Cosmos, Blanket Flower, Marigold, Phlox , Zinnia | Sunflower |
| Sleepy Orange | Blue Porter, Beggar Tick, Aster | Cassia, Clover |
| Spicebush Swallowtail | Dogbane, Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia | Spicebush, Sassafras |
| Spring Azure | Blackberry, Cherry, Dogwood, Forget-me-not, Holly | Dogwood, Viburnum, Blueberry, Spirea, Apple |
| Tawny Emperor | Tree sap, Rotting fruit, Dung, Carrion | Hackberry |
| Tiger Swallowtail | Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia | Black Cherry, Birch, Poplar, Willow |
| Variiegated Fritillary | Joe Pye Weed | Violet, Passion Vine |
| Viceroy | Thistle, Beggar-tick, Goldenrod, Milkweed | Willow, Poplar, Fruit Trees |
| Western Tailed Blue | Legumes | Clover, Peas |
| White Admiral | Aphid Honeydew, Bramble Blossom | Birch, Willow, Poplar, Honeysuckle |
| Zabulon Skipper | Blackberry, Vetch, Milkweed, Buttonbush, Thistle | Purpletop Grass |
| Zebra Longwing | Verbena, Lantana, Shepard's Needle | Passion-vine |
| Zebra Swallowtail | Dogbane, Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia, Privet, Blueberry | Pawpaw |