

All About

BUTTERFLY FRIENDLY PLANTS

at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia

Three areas at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia have been chosen to highlight butterfly attractant plants. In each of these areas, plants have been labeled with either a larva sign or a butterfly sign – indicating that the plant is used by caterpillars or adult butterflies. Only larval host plant have been marked in the Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden; nearly all of the remaining plants in this garden are utilized as nectar sources by adult butterflies.

Herb and Physic Garden

Larval Host Plants

- Blueberry** (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) – Spring Azure
- Butterflyweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*) – Monarch, Queen
- Dill** (*Anethum graveolens*) – Eastern Black Swallowtail
- Fennel** (*Foeniculum vulgare*) – Eastern Black Swallowtail
- Flowering dogwood** (*Cornus florida*) – Spring Azure
- Passion flower** (*Passiflora incarnata*) – Variegated Fritillary, Meadow Fritillary, Gulf Fritillary
- Plantain** (*Plantago major*) – Buckeye
- Rue** (*Ruta graveolens*) – Giant Swallowtail, Eastern Black Swallowtail
- Slippery elm** (*Ulmus rubra*) – Mourning Cloak, Question Mark, Comma
- Spicebush** (*Lindera benzoin*) – Spicebush Swallowtail
- Sweet bay** (*Magnolia virginiana*) – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail



Meadow Fritillary

Butterfly Nectar Plants

- Annual vinca** (*Catharanthus roseus*)
- Bee-balm** (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- Black-eyed susan** (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Blazing star** (*Liatris spicata*)
- Butterflyweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Cardinal flower** (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Chaste tree** (*Vitex agnus-castus*)
- Horsemint** (*Monarda punctata*)
- Mexican bush sage** (*Salvia leucantha*)
- Passion flower** (*Passiflora incarnata*)
- Purple coneflower** (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Tickseed** (*Coreopsis tinctoria*)

Shade and Native Flora Gardens

Larval Host Plants

- Blueberry** (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) – Spring Azure
- Carolina laurel cherry** (*Prunus caroliniana*) – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Red-spotted Purple
- Eastern hop hornbeam** (*Ostrya virginiana*) – Mourning Cloak
- Flowering dogwood** (*Cornus florida*) – Spring Azure
- Ironweed** (*Vernonia altissima*) – Painted Lady
- River birch** (*Betula nigra*) – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Comma
- Smallflower pawpaw** (*Asimina parviflora*) – Zebra Swallowtail

- Spicebush** (*Lindera benzoin*) – Spicebush Swallowtail
- Sweet bay** (*Magnolia virginiana*) – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- Tulip poplar** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- Viburnum** (*Viburnum sp.*) – Spring Azure
- Violet** (*Viola sp.*) – Variegated Fritillary, Great Spangled Fritillary
- Wild azalea** (*Rhododendron spp.*) – Comma
- Wild ginger** (*Asarum canadense*) – Pipevine Swallowtail
- Winged elm** (*Ulmus alata*) – Mourning Cloak, Question Mark, Comma

Butterfly Nectar Plant

- Cardinal flower** (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Ironweed** (*Veronia altissima*)
- Joe-pye weed** (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
- Purple coneflower** (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Swamp hibiscus** (*Hibiscus coccineus*)

Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden

Larval Host Plants

- Butterflyweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*) – Monarch, Queen
- Fennel** (*Foeniculum vulgare*) – Eastern Black Swallowtail
- Mint** (*Mentha sp.*) – Gray Hairstreak
- Scarlet hibiscus** (*Hibiscus coccineus*) – Checkered Skipper

- Spider flower** (*Cleome spinosa*) – Checkered White

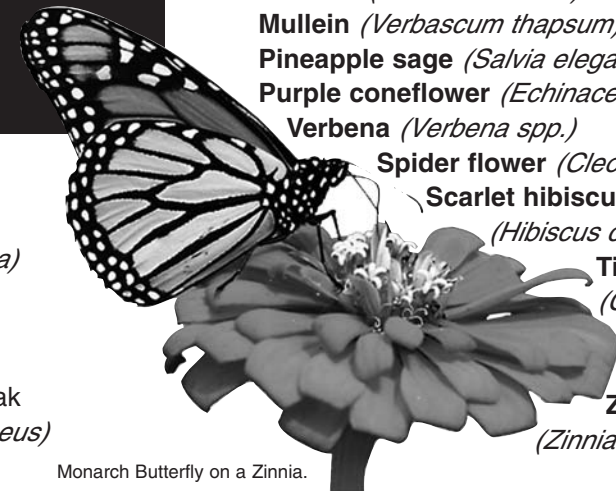
Butterfly Nectar Plants

- Anise sage** (*Salvia guaranitica*)
- Bergamot** (*Monarda didyma*)
- Black-eyed susan** (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Blazing star** (*Liatris spicata*)
- Bog sage** (*Salvia uglinosa*)
- Butterflybush** (*Buddleia davidii*)



Purple coneflower

- Butterflyweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Chaste tree** (*Vitex agnus-castus*)
- Cosmos** (*Cosmos spp.*)
- Feathered amaranth** (*Celosia cristata*)
- Glossy abelia** (*Abelia grandiflora*)
- Horsemint** (*Monarda punctata*)
- Joe-pye weed** (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
- Lance-leaved coreopsis** (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
- Lantana** (*Lantana camara*)
- Mullein** (*Verbascum thapsus*)
- Pineapple sage** (*Salvia elegans*)
- Purple coneflower** (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Verbena** (*Verbena spp.*)
- Spider flower** (*Cleome spinosa*)
- Scarlet hibiscus** (*Hibiscus coccineus*)
- Tickseed** (*Coreopsis tinctoria*)
- Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Zinnia** (*Zinnia elegans*)



Monarch Butterfly on a Zinnia.



Monarch caterpillar on Milkweed

Attracting Butterflies to Your Home Landscape

Urban sprawl and large-scale agriculture are rapidly degrading habitats for butterflies and the plants they depend on. As a gardener, you can use your home landscape to help preserve the lives of butterflies and their larvae!

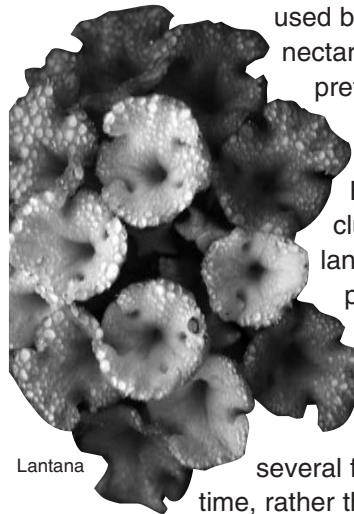


Eastern Black Swallowtail Caterpillar

By providing some of the basic needs of butterflies, gardeners can attract a wide array of butterflies to their home landscape. Planting butterfly attractant plants is one of the easiest ways to bring them into your garden. Butterflies require two types of plants for their survival and perpetuation. Flowering plants provide nectar to sustain adult butterflies as they go about their daily lives – which for monarchs includes migrating for thousands of miles. Numerous

species of flowering plants are used by butterflies for nectar, but they seem to prefer some plants and flower types over others.

Flowers that are in clusters (like lantana) are often preferred. A butterfly can rest upon the flower head and feed on the nectar from



Lantana

several flowers at one time, rather than having to flit from flower to flower – this helps them conserve energy. Butterflies seem to be attracted to brightly colored flowers.

Caterpillars or larvae require a different type of food source during their development. Adult butterflies lay their eggs on larval host plants. After the eggs hatch, the caterpillars feed on the host plants until the time comes for them to form a chrysalis (where the caterpillar metamorphoses to a butterfly). Planting larval host plants is one of the most important things you can do to help the survival of future generations of butterflies. Butterflies are much more choosy with their host plants than they are with their nectar plants. Some butterfly species use only a couple of different plant species (or perhaps only plants from one family) as host plants. The destruction of a population of host plants can have a large effect on butterfly populations. Planting larval host plants in your home

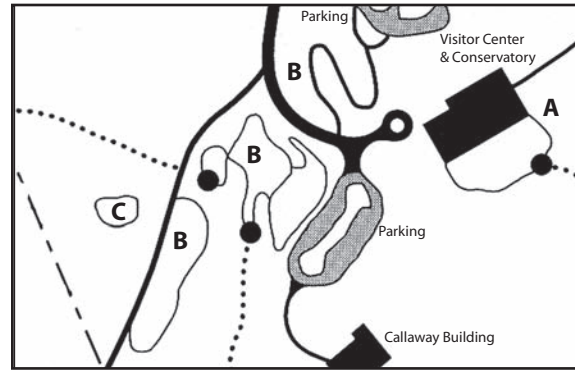


Eastern Black Swallowtail

landscape will have the greatest impact on local butterfly populations. It is also a lot of fun to observe the different stages of the butterfly life cycle on host plants in your garden.

This guide provides a good list of nectar and host plants that can be planted in your home landscape to attract butterflies. When planning a butterfly garden, remember that it is important to have plants flowering throughout the growing season. By planting a variety of plants that flower at different times, you can ensure that there will always be something for butterflies to feed on in your garden.

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- A- Herb & Physic Garden
- B- Shade & Native Flora Garden
- C- Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden

Look for these butterflies at the Garden or in your own backyard. *National Audubon Society's Field Guide to North American Butterflies* is available for purchase in the Garden Gift Shop.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Black Swallowtail | Mourning Cloak |
| Buckeye | Painted Lady |
| Cloudless Sulphur | Pipevine Swallowtail |
| Comma | Question Mark |
| Crescentspot | Red Admiral |
| Eastern Tiger Swallowtail | Red Spotted Purple |
| Grey Hairstreak | Spicebush Swallowtail |
| Gulf Fritillary | Spring Azure |
| Monarch | Variegated Fritillary |
| | Viceroy |

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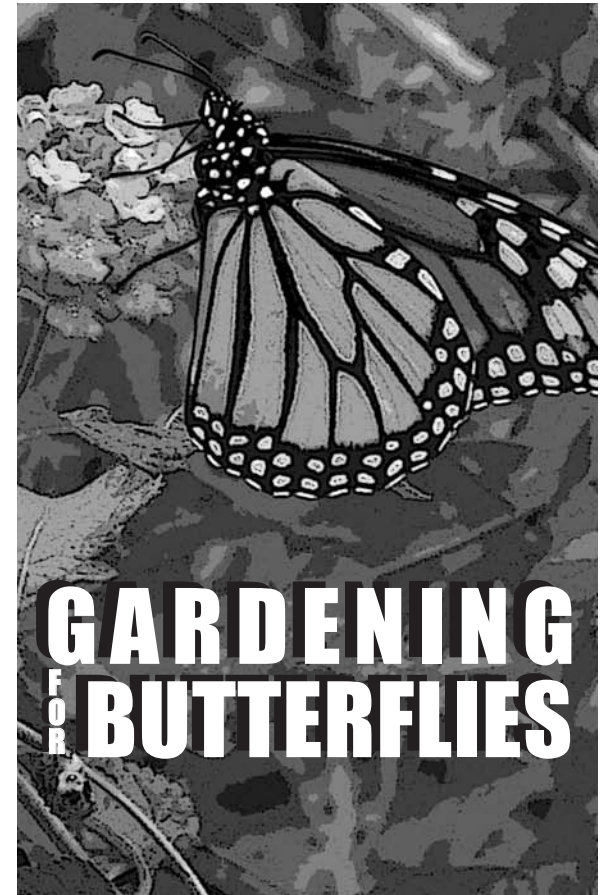
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NECTAR AND HOST PLANTS FOR BUTTERFLIES AND THEIR LARVAE