



SARGENT'S

ATTRACTING BUTTERFLIES

Butterfly Facts

Brightly colored butterflies can be a welcome addition to your Backyard Wildlife Habitat landscape.

To attract butterflies, you need plants that serve the needs of all butterfly's life stages. They need a place to lay eggs, food plants for the larva (caterpillar), a place to form a chrysalis, and nectar sources for the adult.

Most adult butterflies live 10–20 days. However, some live no longer than three or four days, while others, such as overwintering monarchs, may live six months.

Plants That Attract Butterflies

Adults searching for nectar are attracted to:

- red, yellow, orange, pink, or purple blossoms
- flat-topped or clustered flowers
- short flower tubes (reached with their proboscis)

Nectar-producing plants should be grown in open, sunny areas, as adults of most species rarely feed on plants in the shade.

Many caterpillars are picky eaters. They rely on only one or two species of plants. The caterpillar of the giant swallowtail butterfly in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States feeds on just two native plant foods – northern prickly ash and hop tree. Others, such as the red-spotted purple, will feed on a variety of deciduous trees.

NECESSITIES FOR A BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Varieties to feed adult butterflies:

zinnia, marigold, tithonia, buddleia, milkweed, verbena, and plants in the mint family.

Nectar sources should be in full sun:

Butterflies prefer to feed in the sun. If sun is limited, add butterfly nectar sources to the vegetable garden.

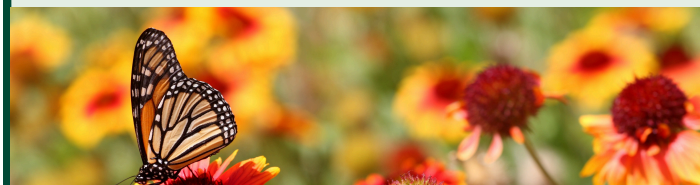
No insecticides!:

Insecticides (like Malathion, Imidacloprid, or Sevin) are designed to kill insects. Don't use near the butterfly garden or better, anywhere on your property. Even organic insecticides such as *Bacillus thuringiensis*, are lethal to butterfly caterpillars.

Feed butterfly caterpillars:

In many cases, certain species feed on a very limited variety of plants. Bringing a variety of native plants into your landscape can increase your chances of having unique and rare butterflies in your yard!

Most butterfly caterpillars don't cause damage, unlike moth caterpillars such as bagworms, tent caterpillars, or gypsy moths.



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PLANTS TO ATTRACT BUTTERFLIES:

Perennials:

Achillea - Yarrow
Echinops spp.- Globe thistle
Agastache
Allium - Chives
Alcaea - Hollyhocks
Aruncus dioicus - Goatsbeard
Asclepias tuberosa - Butterfly weed
Asters
Astilbe - False Goatsbeard
Baptisia australis- False indigo
Chelone glabra - Turtlehead
Centaurea- Bachelor Button
Cimicifuga - Bugbane
Coreopsis - Tickseed
Dianthus - Pinks and Sweet Williams
Digitalis purpurea - Foxglove
Echinacea - Coneflower
Erigeron - Fleabane
Gaillardia - Blanket Flower
Helenium autumnale - Sneezeweed
Hemerocallis - Daylilies
Heuchera - Coralbells
Iberis sempervirens - Candytuft
Lavandula angustifolia
Lobelia cardinalis
Monarda - Bee Balm
Nepeta - Catmint
Oenothera - Evening primrose
Phlox - Phlox
Penstemon - Beardtongue
Rudbeckia - Black Eyed Susan
Sedum - Stonecrop
Scabiosa - Pincushion Plant
Veronica - Speedwell
Viola- Violets

Annuals:

Ageratum
Asters
Calendula
Cosmos
Dahlia
Gaura
Impatiens
Marigolds
Phlox
Pentas
Petunias
Verbena
Zinnias
Buddleia
Dianthus
Chammomile
Heliotrope
Viola
Lavender

Vines & Shrubs:

Morning Glory
Lilac
Dogwood
Spirea
Weigela
Honeysuckle
Pussywillow
Crabapple

Lantana
Moonflowers
Nasturtium
Nicotiana
Snapdragon
Sweet William
Thyme

