



Plants to Attract Butterflies To Your Garden

Adapted from the Plant Sciences Laboratory: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Zone 5)

* Native plant		
Scientific name	Common name	flower color
Perennials		
Achillea millefolium 'Appleblossom'	Yarrow	pink/red
Achillea millefolium 'King Alfred'	Yarrow, dwarf	yellow
* Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly weed	orange
* Asclepias incarnata	Swamp milkweed	pink/red
* Aster novae-angliae	New England Aster	purple
Buddleia davidii 'Petit Plum'	Butterfly bush	purple
Chrysanthemum maximum 'White Knight'	Shasta Daisy	white
Clematis paniculata	Sweet Autumn Clematis	white
* Echinacea purpurea	Purple coneflower	purple
* Eupatorium maculatum	Joe Pye Weed	pink
Heliotropium x hybrid peruvianum	Heliotrope	purple
Lavandula angustifolia	Lavender	purple
* Liatris spicata	Blazing Star	purple
* Lupinus perennis	Wild Lupine	blue
* Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot	lavender
Nepeta mussinii	Catmint	purple
Origanum marjorana	Sweet Marjoram	pink
Phlox paniculata	Phlox	pink
* Physotegia virginiana	False Dragon Head	pink
* Ratibida pinnata	Yellow Coneflower	yellow
* Rudbeckia hirta	Black-Eyed Susan	yellow
Ruta graveolens	Rue	yellow
* Salvia farinacea	Mealycup Sage	blue
* Silphium perfoliatum	Cup Plant	yellow
* Solidago rigida	Goldenrod	yellow
Thymus serpyllum	Creeping Thyme	purple
* Vernonia fasciculata	Ironweed	purple

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Bulbs

Dianthus barbatus 'New Era Mixed'	Sweet William	mixed
Foeniculum vulgaree	Bronze Fennel	food plant

Annuals

Anethum graveolens	Dill	food plant
Anthemis tinctoria	Golden Marguerite	yellow
Antirrhinum 'Floral Carpet'	Snapdragon	mixed
Antirrhinum majus 'Yellow Monarch'	Snapdragon	yellow
*Asclepias verticillata	Whorled Milkweed	
Brassica oleracea capitata	Green Cabbage	food plant
Brassica oleracea italica	Broccoli	food plant
Chrysanthemum 'Polar Star'	Fall Mum	white/yellow
Cleome hasslerana	Spiderflower	pink
*Coreopsis tinctoria	Plains Coreopsis	yellow/red
Cosmos bipinnatus 'Sonata Mixed'	Cosmos	mixed
Cosmos sulphureus	Orange Cosmos	orange
Crystal Palace'	Lobelia	blue
Gomphrena hybrida 'Lavender Lady'	Gomphrena	lavender
Helianthus annus	Sunflower	yellow
Helianthus annus 'Autumn Beauty'	Sunflower	orange/yellow
Helianthus annus 'Italian White'	Sunflower	white
Lathyrus odoratus 'Annabelle'	Sweet Pea, climbing	blue
Lobularia maritima 'Sweet White'	Alyssum	white
*Monarda citriodora	Lemon Mint	purple
Nasturtium majus 'Alaska Improved'	Nasturtium, climbing	orange
Origanum vulgare	Oregano	pink/purple
Petroselinum crispum	Parsley	food plant
*Ratibida columnifera	Mexican Hat	yellow/red
Tithonia grandiflora 'Sundance'	Mexican sunflower	orange
Zinia angustifolia 'Tropical Snow'	Zinnia	white

Larval Food for Butterflies

The following is a list of common butterflies and their source food.

Butterfly

Larval Food Plants

Black Swallowtail	Carrots, parsley, dill
Giant Swallowtail	Prickly ash, citrus trees
Spicebush Swallowtail	Spicebush, sassafras
Tiger Swallowtail	Wild cherry, birch, ash poplar, apple, tulip tree
Zebra Swallowtail	Pawpaw
Monarch	Milkweeds
Great Spangled Fritillary	Violets
Painted Lady	Thistles, bachelor's buttons
Viceroy	Pussy willow, plums, cherries

Other plants that attract butterfly larvae: clover, elm, snapdragon, nettles and willows.