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Attracting Butterflies

Attracting butterflies to your garden begins with choosing the right plants. Adding a few complimentary touches will increase your chances of drawing butterflies.

Plant Selection

Plants that produce large amounts of nectar are best for attracting flying butterflies. Having the right host plants for butterfly larva (caterpillars) will encourage the butterflies to remain in your garden.

Annuals

<i>Ageratum houston.</i>	Ageratum
<i>Antirrhinum</i> spp.	Snapdragon
<i>Cosmos</i> spp.	Cosmos
<i>Dianthus</i> spp.	Pinks
<i>Gazania</i> spp.	Gazania
<i>Heliotropium</i> spp.	Heliotrope
<i>Impatiens</i> spp.	Impatiens
<i>Lantana</i> spp.	Lantana
<i>Nasturtium</i> spp.	Nasturtium
<i>Pentas</i> spp.	Pentas
<i>Petunia</i> spp.	Petunia
<i>Tagetes</i> spp.	Marigold
<i>Verbena</i> spp.	Verbena
<i>Zinnia</i> spp.	Zinnia

Perennials

<i>Achillea</i> spp.	Yarrow
<i>Asclepias</i> spp.	Milkweed
<i>Aster</i> spp.	Aster
<i>Centaurea</i> spp.	Bachelor's Button
<i>Coreopsis</i> spp.	Tickseed
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower
<i>Echinops</i> spp.	Globe Thistle
<i>Eupatorium</i> spp.	Joe Pye Weed
<i>Gaillardia</i> spp.	Blanket Flower
<i>Heliopsis</i> spp.	False Sunflower

(Perennials Continued)

<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	Candytuft
<i>Lavandula</i> spp.	Lavender
<i>Leucanthemum</i> x <i>sup.</i>	Shasta Daisy
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Gayfeather
<i>Lychnis chald.</i>	Maltese Cross
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Bee Balm
<i>Nepeta</i> spp.	Catmint
<i>Phlox paniculata</i>	Garden Phlox
<i>Rudbeckia</i> spp.	Black-Eyed Susan
<i>Salvia</i> spp.	Sage
<i>Scabiosa</i> spp.	Pincushion Flower
<i>Sedum</i> spp.	Stonecrop
<i>Solidago</i> spp.	Goldenrod
<i>Veronica</i> spp.	Speedwell

Trees and Shrubs

<i>Abelia</i> x <i>grandifolia</i>	Glossy Abelia
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush
<i>Caryopteris</i>	Blue Mist Shrub
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Summersweet
<i>Lonicera</i> spp.	Honeysuckle
<i>Malus</i> spp.	Crabapple
<i>Pyracantha</i> spp.	Firethorn
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Ornamental Pear
<i>Syringa</i> spp.	Lilac
<i>Weigela florida</i>	Weigela
<i>Wisteria</i> spp.	Wisteria

Incorporating sources of water and salt into your garden will encourage butterflies to remain longer. Rocks and debris for protection are also very important.

Sources

This sheet has been compiled from experience and *Attracting Hummingbirds and Butterflies* (edited by James D. Blume)