

Butterfly Plant List

* This list of plants is separated by host (larval/caterpillar stage) and nectar (Adult feeding stage) plants. Note that plants under the **host stage** are **consumed by the caterpillars** as they mature and form their chrysalis. Most caterpillars and moths will form their cocoon on the host plant.

Butterflies and moths (*Lepidoptera*) go through what is known as a "complete" lifecycle. This means they go through metamorphosis, where there is a period between immature and adult stages where the insect forms a protective case/cocoon or pupae in order to transform into its adult/reproductive stage. In butterflies this case is called a Chrysalis and can come in various shapes, textures, and colors.

Host Plants/Larval Stage

Perennials/Annuals

Common Name	Scientific
Aster	<i>Asteracea spp.</i>
Beard Tongue	<i>Penstamon spp.</i>
Bleeding Heart	<i>Dicentra spp.</i>
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Dill	<i>Anethum graveolens</i>
Common Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>
Common Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Joe-Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>
Garden Nasturtium	<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>
Parsley	<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>
Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>
Speedwell	<i>Veronica spp.</i>
Spider Flower	<i>Cleome hasslerana</i>
Sunflower	<i>Helianthus spp.</i>
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>

Vines

Common Name	Scientific
Dutchman's pipe	<i>Aristolochia durior</i>
Passion vine	<i>Passiflora spp.</i>
Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>

Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific
Cape Plumbago	<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>
Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus spp.</i>
Mallow	<i>Malva spp.</i>
Rose	<i>Rosa spp.</i>
Senna	<i>Cassia spp.</i>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>
Spirea	<i>Spirea spp.</i>
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum spp.</i>

Trees	
Common Name	Scientific
Birch	<i>Betula spp.</i>
Cherry and Plum	<i>Prunus spp.</i>
Citrus	<i>Citrus spp.</i>
Dogwood	<i>Cornus spp.</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus spp.</i>
Oak	<i>Quercus spp.</i>

Trees	
Common Name	Scientific
Pine	<i>Pinus spp.</i>
Sassafrass	<i>Sassafrass albidum</i>
Sweet Bay	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>
Sycamore	<i>Platanus spp.</i>
Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Willow	<i>Salix spp.</i>

Nectaring Plants/Adult Stage

Perennials/Annuals	
Common Name	Scientific
Aster	<i>Asteracea spp.</i>
Beard Tongue	<i>Penstamon spp.</i>
Bee Balm	<i>Monarda spp.</i>
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spp.</i>
Borage	<i>Borago officianalis</i>
Butterfly Weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
Candytuft	<i>Iberis spp.</i>
Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>
Catmint	<i>Nepeta faassenii</i>
Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis spp.</i>
Cosmos	<i>Cosmos spp.</i>
Giant Hyssop	<i>Agastache spp.</i>
Globe Amaranth	<i>Gomphrena spp.</i>
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago spp.</i>
Impatiens	<i>Impatiens spp.</i>
Joe-Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>
Lantana	<i>Lantana spp.</i>
Lavender	<i>Lavandula spp.</i>
Lilly	<i>Lilium spp.</i>

Perennials/Annuals	
Common Name	Scientific
Marigold	<i>Tagetes spp.</i>
Mexican sunflower	<i>Tithonia rotundifolia</i>
Oregano	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>
Pentas	<i>Pentas lanceolata</i>
Phlox	<i>Phlox spp.</i>
Pincushion Flower	<i>Scabiosa spp.</i>
Pinks	<i>Dianthus spp.</i>
Primrose	<i>Primula spp.</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Ranunculus	<i>Ranunculus spp.</i>
Sage	<i>Salvia spp.</i>
Shasta Daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum maximum</i>
Showy Sedum	<i>Sedum spectabile</i>
Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>
Spider Flower	<i>Cleome hasslerana</i>
Stone Crop	<i>Sedum spp.</i>
Sweet Alyssum	<i>Lobularia maritima</i>
Verbena	<i>Verbena bonariensis</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea spp.</i>

Shrubs	
Common Name	Scientific

Abelia	<i>Abelia spp.</i>
Azalea	<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>
Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleia spp.</i>
Cape Plumbago	<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>
Chinese Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>

Trees	
Common Name	Scientific

Chaste Tree	<i>Vitex spp.</i>
Cherry and Plum	<i>Prunus spp.</i>
Glossy Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>
Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>
Palmetto	<i>Sabal spp.</i>

Shrubs	
Common Name	Scientific

Mock Orange	<i>Mahonia spp.</i>
Rosemary	<i>Philadelphus spp.</i>
Spirea	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>
Sweet Pepperbush	<i>Spirea spp.</i>
Viburnum	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>
	<i>Viburnum spp.</i>