

## Plants to Attract Butterflies to your Garden

Botanical Name	Common Name	Growth Information	Food Source	Butterflies Attracted
<i>Abelia X grandiflora</i>	Glossy abelia	Shrub, 6', Su/Sh	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	Perennial, 6", Su/PSh, DT	Nectar	Skippers, admirals
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	Horse chestnut	Small tree, 15', Su, DT	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	Licorice mint	Perennial, 2 – 4', Su/PSh	Nectar	Skippers
<i>Alcea rosea</i>	Hollyhock	Biennial, 6-8', Su	Nectar Host	Painted lady Painted lady, west coast lady
<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	Alder	Tree, 40', Su/Sh, moist places	Host	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Althaea officinalis</i>	Marsh mallow	Shrub, 12', Su, moist places	Host	Northern white-skipper
<i>Amorpha</i> species	Indigo bush	Perennials, 2 – 3', Su, DT	Nectar Host	Gray hairstreak Marine blue
<i>Antirrhinum</i> species, cultivars	Snapdragon	Annuals, varies, Su	Host	buckeyes
<i>Apocynum</i> species	dogbane	Perennials, shrubs	Nectar	Monarch
<i>Artemisia</i> species, cultivars	Wormwood, dusty miller	Perennials, shrubs, varies, Su, DT	Nectar Host	Western tiger swallowtail, monarch, fiery skipper Painted lady
<i>Asclepias</i> species, cultivars	Milkweed	Perennials, 2', Su/PSh	Nectar Host	Monarch, common buckeye, gray hairstreak, mourning cloak, cloudless sulfur Monarch, queen
<i>Aster</i> species, cultivars	Aster	Perennials, varies, Su	Nectar	Cabbage white, orange sulfur, fiery skipper, painted lady, common buckeye, red admiral
<i>Astragalus</i> species	Milkvetch, locoweed	Perennials, varies, Su, DT	Host	Acmon blue
<i>Baccharis glutinosa</i>	Sleepwillow	Shrub, 10', Su, moist places	Host	Fatal metalmark
<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i> & others	Wild Indigo	Perennials, 3' Su	Host	California dogface
<i>Barbarea orthoceras</i>	Winter cress	Annual, 2 – 3', Su	Nectar	Gray hairstreak, brown elfin

<i>Bidens</i> species, cultivars	Tickseed	Perennials, varies, Su	Nectar	Fiery skipper, queen gulf fritillary
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage	Annual, 3', Su	Nectar	Painted lady
<i>Bougainvillea</i> cultivars	Bougainvillea	Shrubs, vines, Su	Nectar	Cloudless sulfur
<i>Brassica campestris</i> , <i>B. napus</i>	Canola, Rapeseed	Annuals, 3', Su	Host	Painted lady
<i>Brassica</i> species	Mustard	Annuals, Su/PSH	Host	Cabbage white, checkered white, painted lady
<i>Buddleia</i> species, cultivars	Butterfly bush	Shrubs, 4 – 8', Su, DT	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Calamagrostis</i> , <i>Festuca</i> , <i>Glyceria</i> , <i>Helictotrichon</i> , <i>Leymus</i> , <i>Miscanthus</i> , <i>Muhlenbergia</i> , <i>Nassella</i> , <i>Panicum</i> , <i>Pennisetum</i> , <i>Phalaris</i> , <i>Sesleria</i> , <i>Stipa</i>	Grasses	Perennials, varies, Su, some DT	Host	Fiery skipper, common ringlet
<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Calendula, pot marigold	Annual, 3', Su	Nectar	Cabbage whites, skippers
<i>Callistephus chinensis</i>	China aster	Annual, 2', Su	Nectar	Cabbage white, orange sulfur, fiery skipper
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper	Shrub, 3', Su	Host	Cabbage white
<i>Cassia</i> & <i>Senna</i> species, cultivars	Senna	Shrubs, varies, Su, DT	Host	Cloudless sulfur
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower	Perennial, 2 – 3', Su	Nectar	Painted lady
<i>Ceanothus</i> species, cultivars	Ceanothus	Shrubs, varies, Su, DT	Host	Hedgerow hairstreak, pale swallowtail
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red valerian	Annual, 2 – 3', Su, DT	Nectar	many
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush	Perennial, 2 – 3', Sh, wet places	Nectar	Silver-spotted skipper, painted lady, brown elfin
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chickory	Perennial, Su, DT	Nectar	many
<i>Citrus</i> species, cultivars	Citrus	Trees, varies, Su	Host	Anise swallowtail
<i>Cleome hassleriana</i>	Spider flower	Annual, 5', Su	Host	Checkered white
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Summersweet	Shrub, 10', Su, wet places	Nectar	Fiery skipper
<i>Cordia</i> species		Trees, shrubs	Nectar	Cloudless sulfur, gulf fritillary
<i>Coreopsis</i> species, cultivars	Coreopsis	Annuals, perennials, varies, Su	Nectar	Common buckeye, cloudless sulfur, monarch
<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	Cosmos	Annual, 3', Su	Nectar	Painted lady, west coast lady, red admiral, fiery skipper
<i>Desmodium</i> species	Tick trefoil	Perennials, varies	Nectar	Gray hairstreak,

<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Echinacea, purple coneflower	Perennial, 3', Su	Nectar	Monarch, buckeyes
<i>Echinops</i> species, cultivars	thistle	Perennials, 3', Su, DT	Nectar	Fiery skipper, painted lady, California dogface
<i>Eriodictyon californicum</i>	Yerba santa	Perennial, 5', Su, DT	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail, pale swallowtail, Lourquin's admiral
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> & others	Buckwheat	Perennials, varies, Su, DT	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail, gray hairstreak, painted lady, common buckeye, fiery skipper, marine blue
			Host	Gray hairstreak, hedgerow hairstreak, Mormon metalmark
<i>Euthamia</i> species	Goldenrod	Perennials, many conditions	Nectar	Orange sulfur, gray hairstreak, painted lady, red admiral
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	Perennial, 5', Su, DT	Host	Anise swallowtail
<i>Fraxinus</i> species	Ash	Trees, to 80', Su	Host	Western tiger swallowtail, pale swallowtail
<i>Gleditsia</i> species	Honey locust	Tree, 30 – 50', Su, DT	Host	Silver-spotted skipper
<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i>	licorice	Perennial, 3 – 4', Su	Host	Silver-spotted skipper
<i>Grindelia</i> species	Grindelia	Perennials, 1 – 2' Su, DT	Nectar	buckeye
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Sneezeweed	Perennial, 3 – 5', Su, damp places	Nectar	Fiery skipper
<i>Helianthus</i> cultivars	Sunflower	Annuals, 3 – 10', Su	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Heliotropium arborescens</i>	Heliotrope	Perennial, 2 – 3', Su/PSh, DT	Nectar	Orange sulfur
<i>Hibiscus</i> species, cultivars	Hibiscus	Perennials, shrubs	Nectar	Cloudless sulfur
			Host	Gray hairstreak
<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	Hops	Perennial vine, Su	Host	Red admiral
<i>Ipomoea</i> species, cultivars	Morning glory	Shrub, vines, varies, Su, some DT	Nectar	Cloudless sulfur
<i>Lantana</i> species, cultivars	Lantana	Shrubs, Su, DT	Nectar	Gulf fritillary, Western tiger swallowtail, cabbage white, fiery skipper cloudless sulfur

<i>Lathyrus</i> species, cultivars	Sweet pea	Annuals, perennials	Nectar	Silver-spotted skipper, gray hairstreak
			Host	Marine blue, funereal duskywing
<i>Liatis</i> species, cultivars	Blazing star	Perennials, 2 – 4' Su, DT	Nectar	Silver-spotted skipper
<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i> , & others	Privet	Shrub, to 12', Su/PSH	Nectar	Painted lady, Lourquin's admiral
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal flower	Perennial, 2', Su	Nectar	Cloudless sulfur
<i>Lotus scoparius</i>	Deerweed	Shrubby perennial, 1 – 2 ½', Su, DT	Nectar	Cabbage white, checkered white, painted lady, fiery skipper
			Host	Acmon blue, marine blue, funereal duskywing, bramble hairstreak, orange sulfur, silver-spotted skipper, brown elfin
<i>Lupinus</i> species	Lupine	Annuals, perennials, varies, Su, DT	Nectar	Many
			Host	Acmon blue
<i>Malva</i> species, cultivars	Mallow	Perennials, shrubs, varies	Host	West coast lady, gray hairstreak, northern white-skipper
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Alfalfa	Perennial, 3', Su	Host	Orange sulfur, California dogface, marine blue
<i>Mentha</i> species, cultivars	Mint	Perennials, Su/PSH	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail, cabbage white, common buckeye, gray hairstreak, painted lady, red admiral, monarch
<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Monkeyflower	Shrub, 3 – 5', Su, DT	Host	Common buckeye variable checkerspot
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	Shrub, 5 – 15', Su, DT	Nectar	Marine blue
			Host	Queen
<i>Passiflora</i> species, cultivars	Passion flower	Vines, Su/PSH	Host	Gulf fritillary
<i>Penstemon</i> species, cultivars	Penstemon	Perennials, varies, Su	Host	Variable checkerspot

<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>	Parsley	Annual, 6", Su	Host	Anise swallowtail
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	Lippia	Perennial, groundcover, Su	Nectar	queen
<i>Plantago species</i>	Plantain	Annuals, perennials, low, Su/Sh	Host	Common buckeye
<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	Sycamore	Tree, 80', Su, DT	Host	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	Plumbago	Shrub, 3 – 5', Su, DT	Host	Marine blue
<i>Populus species</i>	Poplar	Trees, to 50', Su	Host	Western tiger swallowtail, mourning cloak, Lourquin's admiral
<i>Prosopis species</i>	Mesquite	Small tree, 20', Su, DT	Host	Marine blue
<i>Prunus species</i>	Cherry	Trees, varies	Host	Western tiger swallowtail, pale swallowtail, mourning cloeak, Lourquin's admiral
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	California live oak	Tree, to 40', Su, DT	Sap Host	Mourning cloak California sister
<i>Rhamnus californica</i>	Cofeeberry, buckthorn	Shrub, 8 – 15', Su, DT	Host	Gray hairstreak, pale swallowtail
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black locust	Tree, 40 – 50', Su, DT	Host	Silver-spotted skipper
<i>Ruellia species</i>	Ruellia	Perennials, shrubs, varies	Nectar	Common buckeye
<i>Salix species</i>	Willow	Trees, shrubs	Host	Western tiger swallowtail, mourning cloak, Lourquin's admiral
<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	Hummingbird sage	Perennial, 1', Su/Sh, DT	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail
<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	Black sage	Shrubby perennial, 2 – 3', Su, DT	Nectar	Funereal duskywing, gray hairstreak
<i>Scabiosa species, cultivars</i>		Perennials, to 1', Su, DT	Nectar	Cabbage white
<i>Sphaeralcea species</i>	Globe mallow	Shrubby perennials, varies, Su, DT	Host	Northern white-skipper
<i>Spirea species, cultivars</i>	Spirea	Shrubs, 1 – 3'	Host	Lourquin's admiral
<i>Tagetes lemonii</i>	Mexican marigold	Shrub, 3 – 4', Su, DT	Nectar	Painted lady
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion	Annual, Su/PSh	Nectar	Cabbage white, orange sulfur,
<i>Tithonia rotundifolia</i>	Mexican sunflower	Annual, 3 – 5', Su, DT	Nectar	Fiery skipper
<i>Trifolium species</i>	Clover	Annuals, Su/PSh	Nectar Host	Cabbage white, California dogface, painted lady, (red admiral), gray hairstreak, silver-spotted skipper Orange sulfur, Acmon blue

<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	Nasturtium	Annual, 1', Su/PSh, DT	Host	Cabbage white
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American elm	Tree, to 80', Su	Host	Mourning cloak
<i>Urtica</i> species	Nettle	Perennials ( <b>stinging nettle not recommended for gardens</b> )	Nectar	western tiger swallowtail
			Host	Mourning cloak, red admiral,
<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	Ironweed	Perennial, 4 – 5', Su, damp places	Nectar	Fiery skipper, western tiger swallowtail, monarch
<i>Viola</i> species, cultivars	Viola, Johnny jump-up	Annuals, 6", Su	Nectar	Whites
			Host	Gulf fritillary
<i>Zinnia</i> cultivars	zinnia	Annuals, 6 – 36", Su	Nectar	Western tiger swallowtail, painted lady
<i>Various</i>	Tree sap	Various	Sap	Red admiral
<i>Various</i>	Bird droppings, dung		(adult)	Lourquin's admiral, red admiral

*Keys:*

**Growth Information:** plant type; typical height of plant; Su = Full Sun, PSh = Partial Shade, Sh = Shade; regular water is implied unless noted, DT = Drought Tolerant

**Food Source:** Host = larval food source; nectar, sap = adult food source

*Compiled from various books, and internet sources by Virginia Hayes, Curator, Ganna Walska Lotusland* 