



Butterfly Magnets

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A summer day in the garden is made even more delightful by the presence of butterflies. A welcome addition because of their beauty, they are most likely to visit in the middle of the day and afternoon. Adding a few “butterfly magnets” to your plantings will ensure a good supply of these graceful and useful flower pollinators.

Butterflies prefer plants with blooms in red, yellow, orange, pink and purple and short flower tubes. They are partial to blocks of color and planting in drifts will really get their attention. The average life span of a butterfly is about one month so choose plants for a succession of bloom and plant them in full sun. Many native plants are excellent sources of nectar. When it rains, butterflies attach themselves to the undersides of leaves. A few plants with large foliage will offer protection.

Provide a shallow dish for water and some flat rocks (butterflies are cold-blooded and need to warm up before they can soar; they like to bask in the sun when they are resting.) Avoid insecticides whenever possible.

Perennials

Alcea	(Hollyhock)	Eupatorium	(Joe Pye Weed)
Achillea	(Yarrow)	Gaillardia	(Blanket Flower)
Agastache		Helenium	(Helen’s Flower)
Allium		Hemerocallis	(Daylilies)
Asclepias T.	(Butterfly Milkweed)	Lavendula	(Lavender)
Aster		Liatris	(Gayfeather)
Astrantia	(Masterwort)	Lilium	(Lilies)
Aquilegia	(Columbine)	Lupinus	(Lupines)
Baptisia	(False Indigo)	Malva	(Mallow)
Centaurea	(Corn Flower)	Monarda	(Bee Balm)
Coreopsis	(Tickseed)	Nepeta	(Catmint)
Crysanthemum		Phlox	
Dianthus	(Pinks)	Rudbeckia	(Black-eyed Susan)
Echinacea	(Coneflower)	Scabiosa	(Pincushion)
Echinops	(Thistle)	Sedum	(Stonecrop)

Annuals

Fuschia	Petunia
Lantana	Pineapple Sage
Marigolds	Salvia
Nasturtiums	Sunflowers
Nicotiana	Tithonia
Pansies	Verbena
Penta	Zinnia

Vines

Campsis rad. (Trumpet vine)
Cardinal
Clematis
Hyacinth

Ipomoea (Morning Glory)
Lonicera (Honeysuckle)
Mandevilla
Scarlet Runner Bean

Shrubs

Aesculus p. (Bottlebrush Buckeye)
Buddleia (Butterfly Bush)
Caryopteris (Blue Mist Shrub)
Clethra (Summersweet)
Daphne
Dolichos lab. (Hyacinth Vine)

Hibiscus (Rose of Sharon)
Itea virgin. (Sweetspire)
Spiraea (Bridal Wreath)
Syringa (Lilac)
Viburnum
Weigela

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