



Butterflies are easily attracted to your garden. Whether you are gardening on a balcony or have acres of space, a well-thought-out butterfly garden will attract some of the more than 440 species that have been sighted in Texas.

Plants are listed by common name and genus, because other species of the same genus are often suitable. Although butterflies will attempt to feed on most flowers, some flowers do not provide much nectar and therefore are not included in this list.

Use the Notes column to check off what you have, what you want to get, or the date you saw a butterfly on those plants.

Common Name	Genus	Butterfly Species	Adult	Larva	Notes
Ageratum	Ageratum		•		
Althea	Hibiscus syriacus	Gray Hairstreak		•	
Alyssum	Lobularia	Cabbage White Checkered White	•	•	
Aster	Aster	Pearly Crescentspot	•	•	
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia	Bordered Patch		•	
Blazing star	Liatris		•		
Bluebonnets	Lupine	Frosted Elfin Henry's Elfin Gray Hairstreak	•	•	
Broccoli	Brassica	Cabbage Butterfly Great Southern White		•	
Butterfly Bush	Buddleia		•		
Butterfly Weed	Asclepias	Monarch Queen	•	•	
Calendula	Calendula	Painted Lady	•	•	
Camphor Tree	Camphora	Assorted Swallowtail		•	
Cardinal Flower	Lobelia		•		
Carolina Jessamine	Gelsemium		•		
Carrots	Daucas	Eastern Black Swallowtail		•	
Chaste tree	Vitex	Flashing Astraptes	•	•	
Chile pequin	Caspicum		•		
Citrus	Citrus	Giant Swallowtail	•	•	
Coneflower	Echinacea		•		
Coral Honeysuckle	Lonicera		•		
Coralbean	Erythrina		•		
Cosmos	Cosmos		•		
Cottonwood	Populus	Viceroy Red-Spotted Purple		•	
Dill	Anethum	Eastern Black Swallowtail		•	
Duranta	Duranta		•		





Common Name	Genus	Butterfly Species	Adult Larva	Notes
Dutchman's Pipe	Aristolochia	Pipevine Swallowtail	•	
Elm	Ulmus	Mourning Cloak Question Mark	•	
Fennel	Foeniculum	Black Swallowtail Variegated Fritillary	•	
Fire bush	Hamelia		•	
Flame Acanthus	Anisacanthus	Janais Patch (Crimson Patch) Texan Crescentspot	• •	
Fringe Tree	Chionanthus		•	
Frogfruit	Phyla	Buckeye, White Peacock Phaon Crescentspot	• •	
Gulf Coast Penstemon	Penstemon		•	
Gulf Muhly Grass	Muhlenbergia		•	
Hackberry	Celtis	Hackberry Butterfly Mourning Cloak Pale Emperor	•	
Hibiscus	Hibiscus		•	
Holly	Ilex	Henry's Elfin	•	
Hollyhock	Althaea	Common Streaky Skipper Painted Lady	• •	
Honeysuckle	Lonicera	Spring Azure	• •	
Jacobinia	Jacobinia	Texan Crescentspot	•	
Jatropha	Jatropha		•	
Juniper	Juniperus	Olive Hairstreak	•	
Lantana	Lantana	Painted Lady	• •	
Lettuce	Lactuca	Painted Lady	•	
Mint	Mentha		•	
Mexican Flame Vine	Senecio		•	
Mexican Hat	Ratibida		•	
Mexican Heather	Cuphea		•	
Mexican Plum	Prunus	Tiger Swallowtail	•	
Mexican Sunflower	Tithonia		•	
Milkweed	Asclepias	Monarch Queen	• •	
Mistletoe	Phoradendron	Giant Purple Hairstreak	•	
Pansy	Viola	Variegated Fritillary	• •	
Parsley	Petroselinum	Eastern Black Swallowtail	•	
Passionflower	Passiflora	Gulf Fritillary Julia Zebra Longwing	• •	





Common Name	Genus	Butterfly Species	Adult	Larva	Notes
Pawpaw	Asimina	Zebra Swallowtail		•	
Pentas	Pentas		•		
Phlox	Phlox		•		
Pigeonberry	Ravina		•		
Plumbago	Plumbago	Zebra Longwing	•		
Porterweed	Stachtarpheta		•		
Rain Lily	Cooperia		•		
Redbud	Cercis	Henry's Elfin	•	•	
Rock Rose	Pavonia		•		
Rue	Ruta	Eastern Black Swallowtail Giant Swallowtail		•	
Ruellia	Ruellia	Buckeye Fatima Malachite Texas Crescentspot White Peacock		•	
Salvia	Salvia	Cuban Crescentspot	•	•	
Senna	Senna	Assorted Sulphur	•	•	
Shrimp Plant	Beloperone	Texan Crescentspot	•	•	
Sweet Bay Magnolia	Magnolia virginiana	Assorted Swallowtail		•	
Texas Mountain Laurel	Sophora	Henry's Elfin		•	
Toadflax	Linaria	Buckeye		•	
Trumpet Vine	Campsis	Cuban Crescentspot		•	
Tulip Tree	Liriodendron	Assorted Swallowtail	•	•	
Turk's Cap	Malvaviscus		•		
Verbena	Verbena		•		
Virginia Sweetspire	Itea		•		
Wax Myrtle	Myrica	Red-banded Hairstreak		•	
Wedelia	Wedelia		•		
Willow	Salix	Red-Spotted Purple Viceroy		•	
Winecup	Callirhoe	Common Checkered Skipper Gray Hairstreak		•	
Wisteria	Wisteria	Silver-Spotted Skipper	•	•	
Yaupon Holly	Ilex	Henry's Elfin		•	
Yellow-Bells (Esparanza)	Tecoma stans	Gray Hairstreak	•	•	
Zinnia	Zinnia		•		





Helpful hints to attract butterflies to your home include:

- using organic methods, eliminating the possibility of poisoning your new friends.
- Plan your garden out and know what you need.
- Use a sunny area and plant a big mass of color.
- Provide a source of fresh water... birdbaths are great!
- Leave room for mud...native soils provide valuable minerals, vitamins and amino acids.
- Some butterflies prefer rotting fruit...it will compost and draw birds.
- Include a garden bench or chairs to allow you to enjoy your butterflies to their fullest.

Good luck!

#### Other resources

[www.butterfliesandmoths.org](http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org)

[www.learner.org/jnorth](http://www.learner.org/jnorth)

[www.monarchwatch.org](http://www.monarchwatch.org)

[www.naba.org/chapters/nabast/photos.html](http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabast/photos.html)

[www.texasdiscoverygardens.org/butterflies.php](http://www.texasdiscoverygardens.org/butterflies.php)

