Butterfly Host Plants

Rhus typhina (staghorn sumac) – Spring Azure, Summer Azure

Ruellia humilius (wild petunia) – Common Buckeye

Salix discolor (American willow) – Acadian Hairstreak, Dreamy Duskywing, Mourning Cloak, Red Spotted Purple, Viceroy

Schizachyrium scoparium (little bluestem) – Crossline Skipper

Solidago caesia (blue-stem goldenrod) – Baltimore Checkerspot

Solidaga rugosa (rough-stemmed goldenrod) – Baltimore Checkerspot

Vaccinium spp. (blueberry) – Spring Azure

Vernonia arkansana (Ozark ironweed) – American Painted Lady, Painted Lady

Vernonia fasticulata (smooth ironweed) – American Painted Lady, Painted Lady

Vernonia gigantea (ironweed) – American Painted Lady, Painted Lady

Vernonia noveboracensis (New York ironweed) – American Painted Lady, Painted Lady

Viburnum carlesii (Korean spice viburnum) – Spring Azure

Viola pedata (birdfoot violet) – Great Spangled Frittilary, Meadow Frittilary

References

Brock, Jim P. and Kenn Kaufman. 2003. *Butterflies of North America*. Houghton Mifflin Company, N.Y.

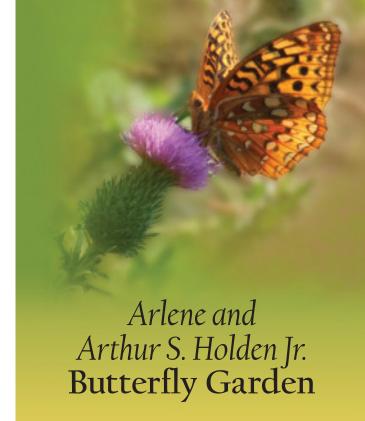
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Parshall, Dave and Jim Davidson. 2009. Butterflies and Skippers of Ohio. Division of Wildlife.

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These reference materials can be found at the Warren H. Corning Library





Host Plant List

Use this list and associated plant labels in the garden to locate butterfly host plants. Plant labels that correspond to the host list will be marked with a caterpillar.



Monarch Chrysalis

Butterflies lay their eggs on plants. These plants are called host plants. When the caterpillar hatches from its egg it will feed on its host plant. Some butterflies use only one kind of plant as a host whereas others use several to many different species.

Adult butterflies feed on flower nectar and are not as specific about nectar plants as they are host plants. Butterflies are attracted to solid masses of color, flower fragrance, and flower shape.



Newly Emerged Monarch

Butterfly Host Plants

Acer saccharum (sugar maple) –
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Mourning Cloak

Andropogon gerardii (big bluestem) – Common Wood Nymph

Andropogon virginicus (broomsedge bluestem) – Common Wood Nymph

Aquilegia canadensis (wild columbine) – Spring Azure

Asclepias incarnata (swamp milkweed) – Monarch

Asclepias sullivantii (prairie milkweed) – Monarch

Asclepias syriaca (common milkweed) – Monarch

Asclepias tuberosa (butterfly weed) – Monarch

Asimina triloba (paw paw) – Zebra Swallowtail

Aster laevis (smooth aster) – Pearl Crescent

Aster lateriflorum (calico aster) – Pearl Crescent

Aster novae-angliae (New England aster) – Pearl Crescent

Aster oblongifolius (aromatic aster) – Pearl Crescent

Baptisia minor (lesser wild indigo) – Orange Sulphur

Baptisia sphaerocarpa (yellow wild indigo) – Orange Sulphur

Baptisia tinctoria (yellow false indigo) – Orange Sulphur, Silver Spotted Skipper, Wild Indigo Duskywing

Betula nigra (river birch) – Copton Tortoiseshell, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Mourning Cloak, Red Spotted Purple

Carex muskingumensis (palm sedge) – Dun Skipper, Eyed Brown

Ceanothus americanus (New Jersey tea) – Spring Azure, Summer Azure

Celtis occidentalis (common hackberry) – Mourning Cloak, Question Mark

Chasmanthium latifolium (sea oats) – Common Roadside Skipper, Northern Pearly Eye

Chelone glabra (white turtlehead) – Baltimore Checkerspot

Chelone Iyonii (pink turtlehead) – Baltimore Checkerspot

Cimicifuga racemosa (black cohosh) – Spring Azure

Cornus amomum (silky dogwood) – Spring Azure

Cornus kousa (kousa dogwood) – Spring Azure

Cornus mas (cornelian cherry) – Spring Azure

Digitalis grandiflora (yellow foxglove) – Common Buckeye

Eragrostis spectabilis (purple love grass) – Zabulon Skipper

Aster divaricata (white wood aster) – Monarch, Pearl Crescent

Foeniculum vulgare (sweet fennel) – Black Swallowtail

Helianthus microcephalus (small wood sunflower) – American Painted Lady, Painted Lady, Spring Azure

Hibiscus moscheutos (rose mallow) – Gray Hairstreak

Hystrix patula (bottle brush grass) – Northern Pearly Eye

Ilex verticillata (winterberry) – Harvester (aphids), Spring Azure

Lindera benzoin (spicebush) – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Spicebush Swallowtail

Lonicera sempervirens (trumpet honeysuckle) – Baltimore Checkerspot, Spring Azure

Lupinus perennis (wild lupine) –
Eastern Tailed Blue, Wild Indigo Duskywing

Malva moschata (musk mallow) – Gray Hairstreak

Panicum virgatum (panic grass) – Hobomok Skipper, Indian Skipper, Least Skipper, Northern Broken Dash, Tawny-edged Skipper

Pinus strobus (white pine) – Gray Hairstreak

Prunus x yedoensis (Yoshino cherry) – Coral Hairstreak, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Painted Lady, Red Spotted Purple, Spring Azure

Quercus muehlenbergii (chinkapin oak) – Banded Hairstreak, Gray Hairstreak, Horace's Duskywing

Quercus shumardii (shumard oak) – Banded Hairstreak, Horace's Duskywing