

Planting for Butterflies

You can attract butterflies by growing plants they need. Most butterflies can feed on nectar from a wide variety of plants, but cannot reproduce without their native host plants. You can help by planting the host species in this guide and protecting habitats where they grow naturally.

Though most butterfly species use several host plants, this guide only lists one plant per butterfly, with both common and scientific names. Because common names vary and some species look similar, reference the scientific name when buying plants. Be sure to buy plants that have not been treated with pesticides. Pesticides can be toxic to butterflies and other insects.

While native plants are crucial for butterflies, they can be hard to find. Sources of Georgia native plants, additional planting tips, and many more butterflies can be found at www.nabageorgia.weebly.com.



Georgia is home to over **160** butterfly species.

Almost any backyard can attract approximately **30** butterfly species.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE BUTTERFLIES?

PROTECTING THE MAJESTIC MONARCHS

Monarchs east of the Rockies have declined significantly since 1995.

During spring and summer, monarchs breed throughout the U.S. and southern Canada. In the fall, adults of an eastern population migrate to Mexico for the winter. The following spring, these butterflies fly northward, many crossing Georgia. To survive these long journeys, monarchs need nectar from flowering plants all along their

route and milkweed on which to lay eggs in spring. The eggs hatch into caterpillars that can only eat milkweed leaves.

SUGGESTED GEORGIA NATIVE MILKWEEDS

- Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Poke milkweed (*Asclepias exaltata*)
- Whorled milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*)

Milkweed and other native butterfly host plants have been reduced in recent years due to a number of factors, including human development, agriculture, mowing, climate change, and the use of chemical weed killers (herbicides).

Some scientists are concerned the spread of tropical milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*) in the U.S. has negative impacts on monarch migration. To avoid potential risks of growing tropical milkweed, cut it to the ground in late fall and also include Georgia native milkweeds and nectar plants in your garden.

Asclepias tuberosa



GEORGIA BUTTERFLIES



This educational resource was developed by the North American Butterfly Association, Georgia-Piedmont Chapter, with technical advice and expertise provided by Monarchs Across Georgia and Dr. Jaret C. Daniels. Funding was provided by Friends of Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Photography by Jim Alison, Eric Bégin, Dale Clark, Jaret C. Daniels, Vicki DeLoach, Phil Delestrez, Quinn Dombrowski, David Edwards, John Flannery, Mollie Freilicher, David Heise, David A. Hofmann, Ellen Honeycutt, Neil Hunt, Kara Jones, Mary Keim, Regina Kreger, Dane Larsen, Seabrooke Leckie, Virginia C. Linch, Donna L. Long, Manuel, Meredith Mays, Chrissy McClarren, Melissa McMasters, Tom Murray, Laura and Berry Nall, R. A. Nonenmacher, Piers Nye, Vincent Parsons, Rose Payne, Penn State, Tom Potterfield, Andy Reago, Paul Ritchie, Harry Rose, Jason Sharp, Ken Slade, Caleb Slemmons, Forest and Kim Starr, Dean Wm. Taylor, Per Verdonk, and Kerry Wixted. Design by Krissy Smith Verplank.



WHO'S ON THE COVER?
USE THIS GUIDE TO IDENTIFY THE BUTTERFLIES!

Answer: Black Swallowtail larva and Eastern Tiger Swallowtail adult




GLOSSAMER-WINGS

ADULT

LARVA

HOST PLANT






Red-Banded Hairstreak

Winged Sumac
(*Rhus copallinum*)



Gray Hairstreak

Rose Mallow
(*Hibiscus moscheutos*)



Spring Azure

Dogwood
(*Cornus florida*)



Summer Azure

New Jersey Tea
(*Ceanothus americanus*)






Eastern Tailed Blue

Bush Clover
(*Lespedeza virginica*)



American Snout

Common Hackberry
(*Celtis occidentalis*)



Variegated Fritillary

Birdfoot Violet
(*Viola pedata*)



Gulf Fritillary

Passionflower
(*Passiflora incarnata*)

ADULT

LARVA

HOST PLANT






Viceroy

Black Willow
(*Salix nigra*)






Pearl Crescent

New England Aster
(*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)






Red Admiral

Common Hop Vine
(*Humulus lupulus*)



Common Buckeye

Wild Petunia
(*Ruellia caroliniensis*)






Red-Spotted Purple

Wild Cherry
(*Prunus serotina*)



Mourning Cloak

Black Willow
(*Salix nigra*)



Eastern Comma

False Nettle
(*Boehmeria cylindrica*)






Question Mark

False Nettle
(*Boehmeria cylindrica*)

ADULT

LARVA

HOST PLANT



American Lady

Pussy Toes
(*Antennaria plantaginifolia*)



Painted Lady

Thistle
(*Cirsium altissimum*)





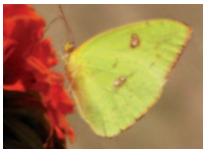
Carolina Satyr

Carpet Grass
(*Axonopus compressus*)






Horace's Duskywing

Water Oak
(*Quercus nigra*)



Cloudless Sulphur

Wild Senna
(*Senna marilandica*)



Little Yellow

Partridge Pea
(*Chamaecrista fasciculata*)



Sleepy Orange

Wild Senna
(*Senna marilandica*)






Cabbage White
(native to Europe)

Virginia Peppergrass
(*Lepidium virginicum*)

ADULT

LARVA

HOST PLANT



Long-Tailed Skipper

American Wisteria
(*Wisteria frutescens*)



Silver-Spotted Skipper

False Indigo Bush
(*Amorpha fruticosa*)



Fiery Skipper

Teal Lovegrass
(*Eragrostis hypnoides*)






Spicebush Swallowtail

Spicebush
(*Lindera benzoin*)



Zebra Swallowtail

Pawpaw Tree
(*Asimina triloba*)



Black Swallowtail

Golden Alexander
(*Zizia aurea*)



Pipevine Swallowtail

Pipevine
(*Aristolochia tomentosa*)



Giant Swallowtail

Hercules Club
(*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*)

BRUSHFOOTS

WHITES, SULPHURS, SKIPPERS

SWALLOWTAILS