

Butterflies



Birds

Things with Wings Brochure

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BUTTERFLY GARDENING

Resident butterfly populations in your yard require both larval and nectar (adult) foods. Numerous suitable plants should be provided, preferable in an unkept area. Allow grasses to grow for cover and larval food. Do not use pesticides or herbicides in or near the butterfly garden. Some butterflies require specific natural habitats and cannot be found in urban areas. Others can be brought in during the pre-adult state and placed on suitable plants.

For your nectar food plants having a wide variety of different flowers and plant species is preferred rather than to have just a few varieties. Different butterflies often have different flower preferences. As a rule, small butterflies use small flowers and large butterflies use larger ones for nectar.

Sweet, pungent and acid-smelling flowers attract butterflies. Attracting colors include orange, yellow, pink, purple, and red. Plants with deep throated, drooping or enclosed flowers are unsuitable for nectar-gathering. Wildflowers, in their simplicity, are great butterfly attracters; many hybridized flowers fail to attract. White flowers and those emitting their fragrances at night usually attract moths.

These are some of the plants visited by butterflies for nectar and larval (L) in annuals. Salvia, Impatiens, Marigold (L), Melampodium, Torenia, Dahlberg Daisy, Dahlia, Snap Dragons, Dianthus, Alyssum, Vinca, Zinnias, Asters, Mums, Coreopsis, Shasta Daisy, Phlox, Petunias, Nasturtium (L), Hollyhocks (L), Penny Royal. It is best to choose your nectar sources so that at least some plants are always blooming. Use Espoma Organic Flower Tone or Sunniland Bloom Special 2-10-10 once a month for continuous blooms.

See nectar plant section.

Larval food plants must be tailored to specific butterflies. You also must remember that these plants ultimately will be chewed on if you are successful. Resist the urge to protect these plants from the caterpillars. Birds and other predators are quick to eat them, so few caterpillars reach adulthood or get large enough to do extensive damage. Plant carrots, parsley or dill, primarily to feed black swallowtail caterpillars. Most destructive caterpillars are the larvae of moths. **See larval plant section.**

Adult butterflies also use water, so a good butterfly garden will provide a proper place to drink. Butterflies drink by sucking water from moist ground or pebbles. They cannot use free-standing water. One good way to make a drinking station is to bury a saucer or small can in the ground, fill it nearly with sand and saturate this sand with water. Place a flat pebble at the edge for a landing base. When designing a butterfly garden try to provide protection from rain and wind by planting large plants behind in a horse shoe form planted on the Northwest side. This will provide a safe place for butterflies to sleep during the night.

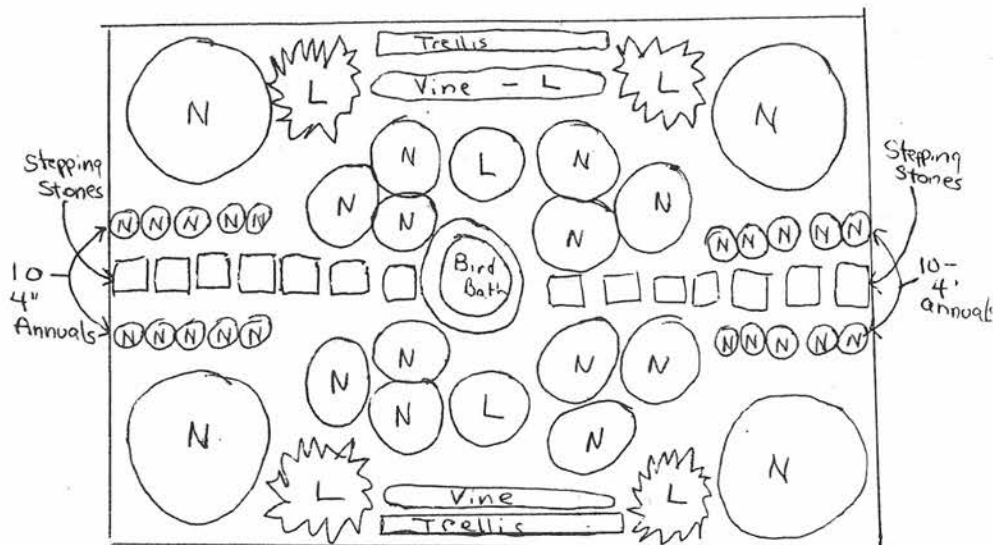
See landscape plan section.

A Boy Scout saying

"You never plan to fail, you fail to plan"

John King, Jr. says

"Proper spacing will help you be successful."



72 ft x 18 ft = 1,300 sq. ft.

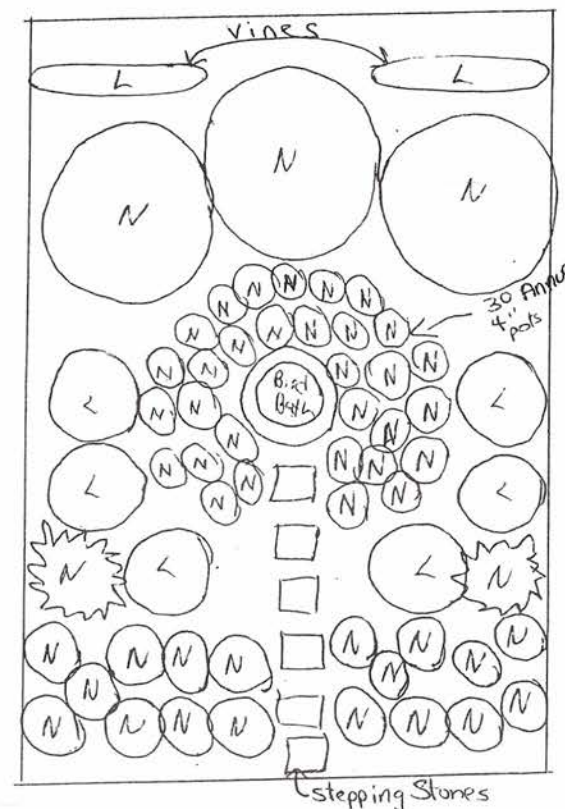
Spacing

Plants & Shrubs
Space 3 ft. on Center

Annuals &
Small Perennials
Space 1 ft. on Center

N - Nectar Plant

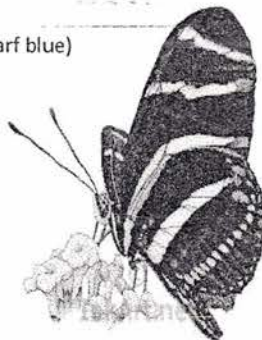
L - Larval Plant



72 ft x 18 ft = 1,300 sq. ft.

SUN NECTAR PLANTS

Agapanthus spp. (Lily of the Nile blue or white, Elaine dark blue, Peter Pan dwarf blue)
 Agastache spp. (Acapulco salmon & pink, Fortune Hyssop blue)
 Aloysia vigata (Sweet Almond Bush)
 Asclepias spp. (Milkweed red or yellow)
 Buddleia spp. (Butterfly Bush multi-colors, Buzz series Dwarf multi-colors)
 Bulbine fruticosa (Jelly Plant orange and yellow)
 Callistemon citrinus (Dwarf Bottlebrush Red Little John)
 Cassia spp. (Butterfly Bush Dwarf) also Senna Spp.
 Cestrum auranticum (Jessamine Shrub)
 Cestrum nocturnum (Night Blooming Jasmine)
 Cleome hasslerana (Spider Flower pink, purple or white)
 Clerodendrum ugandense (Blue Butterfly Flower)
 Coreopsis spp. (Early Sunrise or Tick Seed)
 Cuphea spp. (Allyson Heather)
 Durana erecta (Golden Dew Drop lavender regular or variegated foliage & sapphire showers)
 Echinacea spp. (Coneflower multi-colors)
 Gaillardia spp. (Blanket Flower)
 Gamolepis chrysanthemoides (Bush Daisy)
 Gaura lindheimeri (Whirling Butterfly white crimson or pink)
 Hamelia Patens (Firebush/ Scarlet Bush (regular, compacta, firefly))
 Hemerocallis spp. (Daylilies multi-colors)
 Hibiscus rosa sinensis (Tropical Hibiscus – Single & Double Blooms multi-colors)
 Ixora spp. (Regular or Dwarf (red/orange, yellow)
 Jatropha integerrima (Cuban laurel - red)
 Lantana spp. (multi-colors)
 Mirabilis jalapa (Four O' Clocks - yellow or pink)
 Orthosiphon ecklonis (Cat Whisker - white or lavender)
 Pentas lanceolata (Dwarf, Medium, Large varieties multi-colors)
 Perovskia spp. (Russian Sage or Little Spire)
 Plumbago spp. ("True Blue", white or red)
 Rudbeckia spp. (Black Eye Susan Daisy)
 Ruellia brittoniana (Mexican Petunia Regular or Dwarf Katie – lavender, pink or white)
 Ruellia elegans (Red Ruellia)
 Russelia equisetiformis (Firecracker Plant red or yellow cream)
 Salvia coccinea (tropical sage – red, pink or white)
 Salvia farinacea (Victoria salvia – blue)
 Salvia greggii (autumn sage or Mickey Mouse Salvia)
 Salvia guarenitica (black & blue salvia)
 Salvia luevcantha (Mexican Sage – lavender)
 Salvia madrensis (forsythia sage – yellow)
 Salvia nemorosa (may night salvia – blue)
 Salvia splendor (annual red salvia)
 Salvia X spp. (Indigo Spires or Hot Lips Salvia)
 Scutellaria spp. (Purple Fountain Sage)
 Stachytarpheta spp. (Porterweed – red or blue)
 Stokesia laevis (Stokes Aster blue or Parasol purple)
 Tagetes erecta (Marigold annual)
 Tecomaria capensis (cape honeysuckle - orange)
 Tecomaria stans (espranza, tree of gold – yellow)
 Tibouchina spp. (Princess Flower- purple, standard- regular or dwarf – long leaf smooth or fuzzy)
 Verbena spp. (Homestead or Tapiens varieties – multi-colors)
 Vernonia lettermanii (Iron Butterfly)
 Zinnias spp. (profusion or dreamland – multi-colors)



SHADE NECTAR PLANTS

AbutilonX hybridum (flowering maple or chinese lantern)
 Clerodendrum speciosissimum (Red Pagoda or Glory Bower - red)
 Hedychium coronarium (butterfly Ginger Lily – white)
 Hibiscus mutabilis (Confederate Rose)
 Justicia brandegeana (shrimp plant – red or yellow)
 Justicia carnea (Pink Jacobina)
 Odontonema cuspidatum (Fire Spike -red)
 Plectranthus spp. (Mona Lavender - lavender)

NECTAR TREES

Callistemon viminalis (Bottlebrush red cluster)
 Cassia spp. (Popcorn cassia or Candlestick) also Senna Spp.
 Cercic canadensis (Red Bud)
 Cornus florida (Florida Dogwood)
 Prunus angustifolia (Chickasaw Plum)
 Tithonia diversifolia (Mexican Sun Flower)
 Vitex agnus-cactus shoal creek (Chaste Tree)

NECTAR VINES

Lonciera spp. (honeysuckle – woodbine)
 Passiflora spp. (passion vine – blue, red, lavender)
 Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides (Mexican Flame Vine - orange daisy)
 Wisteria spp. (Wisteria averican or Chinese - lavender)

NECTAR ANNUAL PLANTS

Alyssum	Portulaca (Moss Rose)
Chrysanthemum (mums)	Purslane
Dianthus	Salvia
Lobelia	Snaptdragons
Marigold	Sunflowers
Melepodium	Torenia
Phlox	Vinca
Zinnias	

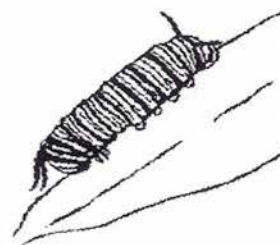
NECTAR HERBS (When in Bloom Only)

Dill	Oregano- (regular, greek, variegated)
Fennel	Parsley
Lavender	Rosemary
Lemon Balm	Pennyroyal
Sweet Marjoram	Thyme- (garden)
Mints – (apple, chocolate, lime, orange, peppermint, spearmint)	

LARVAL PLANTS

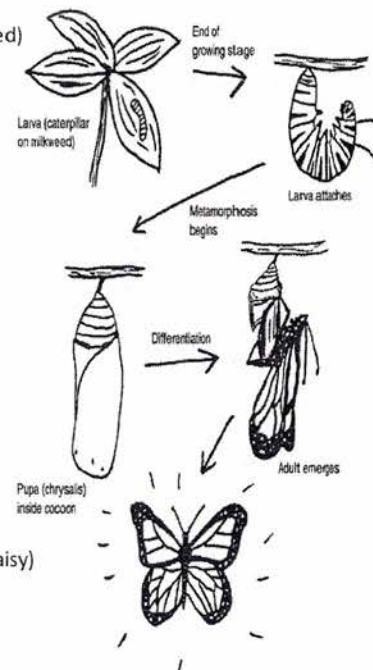
Butterfly:

Black Swallowtail
 Fiery Skipper
 Giant Swallowtail
 Gulf Fritillary
 Monarch
 Pipevine Swallowtail
 Polydamas Swallowtail
 Queen
 Sulfur (yellow or white)
 Zebra Long Wing



Food Plant:

Carrot, Parsley, Dill, Rue
 Various Grasses (St. Augustine)
 Citrus spp. Rue
 Passion Vine spp.
 Milkweed
 Native Dutchman's Pipevine
 Dutchman's Pipevine
 Milkweed
 Cassia spp.
 Passion Vine spp. (in the shade)



- **Where do butterflies sleep?**

Roosting: To sleep or for protection during bad weather, butterflies roost in areas protected from predators and direct exposure to the elements. They roost on the underside of leaves or crawl into crevices. Most roost alone perched head- up with their wings folded.

- **How do butterflies get warm?**

Basking: As cold- blooded animals the first thing a butterfly does at the beginning of a day is to warm up. Most species adopt characteristic basking poses after waking from their roost to a sunny perch in the early morning. Some sit in the sunshine with wings open flat allowing the sun's rays to warm them. Other butterflies sit in the sunshine, their wings closed with their bodies tilted so the plane of their wings is perpendicular to the sun's rays. A butterfly will warm itself until it's ready to fly, move quickly to the next flower or basking spot, and begin warming itself again.

- **What do butterflies eat?**

Eating: Nectar is the staple of the adult butterfly's diet. Their long proboscis allows them to reach deep into flowers and retrieve the nectar found there. While nectar is the primary source of energy for butterflies, they also need nutrients and minerals to fly and reproduce. Some butterflies also eat fruit and drink water dung (manure tea).

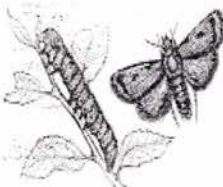
- **Why do butterflies puddle?**

Puddling: Puddling sites are areas where water regularly accumulates and then evaporates, thus concentrating minerals. The butterflies visit these sites and suck up the nutrients from the soil through their proboscis. Almost all of the butterflies at a puddling site are males. The males need the sodium and other nutrients in the soil for the successful mating.

- **What is the difference between a butterfly & moth?**

Butterflies: Rest with closed wings; Prefer to fly during the day. Usually have a smooth body; Antennae are thicker with clubbed appearance at the ends; Produce a Chrysalis.

Moths: Rest with wings open; Prefer to fly at dusk or night time; Usually have a fuzzy body; Antennae appear feathery with ends tapered to a point; Produce a cocoon.



Following plants are recommended by Fl. Audubon Society to attract Florida birds:

Trees:

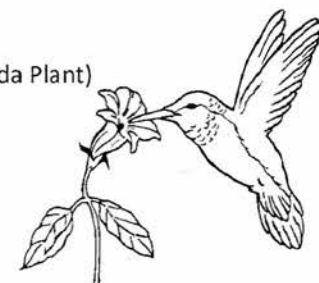
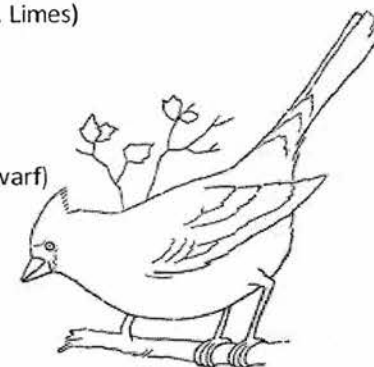
Citrus spp. (Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, Lemons, Limes)
 Cornus florida (Florida Dogwood)
 Eriobotrya japonica (Loquat or Japanese Plum)
 Ilex opaca (East Palatoka Holly)
 Ilex cassine (Holly)
 Magnolia grandiflora (Magnolia or Magnolia Gem -Dwarf)
 Quercus Spp. (Oaks)

Shrubs and Vines:

Callicarpa americana (Beautyberry)
 Duranta repens (Pigeon Berry)
 Feijoa sellowiana (Pineapple Guava)
 Ligustrum japonicum (Wax Privet)
 Myrica cerifera (Wax Myrtle)
 Viburnum odoratissimum (Sweet Viburnum)
 Vitis spp. (Grape Vines)

Plants That Attract Hummingbirds:

Agastache spp. (Acapulco salmon & pink or Blue Fortune Hyssop)
 Beloperone guttata (Shrimp Plant)
 Buddleia spp. (Butterfly Bush)
 Canna spp.
 Clerodendrum speciosissimum (Glory Bower or Red Pagoda Plant)
 Delphinium spp.
 Echinacea spp. (Cone Flower)
 Gaillardia grandiflora (Blanket Flower)
 Hamelia patens (Firebush Reg. or Dwf. Firefly)
 Hedychium coronarium (Butterfly Ginger Lily)
 Hemerocallis spp. (Daylily)
 Hibiscus mutabilis (Confederate Rose) & Hibiscus rosa sinensis – Tropical Hibiscus
 Ixora coccinea (Flame of the Woods)
 Jatropha integerrima (Coral plant)
 Lonicera sempervirens (coral honeysuckle, woodbine)
 Lantana camara (Lantana)
 Malvaviscus arboreus (Turk's cap)
 Odontonema cuspidatum (Red Fire Spike)
 Pachystachys lutea (golden shrimp plant)
 Pentas lanceolata (Pentas Dwarf, Medium & Regular)
 Plumbago capensis (Plumbago)
 Poinciana pulcherrima (Dwarf Poinciana Tree)
 Ruellia elegans (Red Ruellia)
 Russelia spp. (Firecracker Plant)
 Salvia coccinea (Scarlet sage or Tropical sage)
 Tecomaria capensis (Cape Honeysuckle)
 Verbena spp. (Homestead & Tapiens varieties)
 Zinnias (Profusion Series)



**Don't make your
 Hummingbirds Sick
 Change Feeder daily
 When it is
 90 degrees or hotter**

How to plant butterfly plants and shrubs.

Butterfly plants care begins with proper planting. Dig a hole at least wider than the root ball or container size. Save the soil in a wheelbarrow or tarp to blend and refill the hole when planting.

Blend the following ingredients with soil taken out of the hole

Annual plants (4" pot size)

- Small hand trowel of Planting Soil (1 cu.ft.)
- 1 Tablespoon Milorganite or Espoma Flower Tone
- 3 granules of Hort-a-sorb (if a dry location)

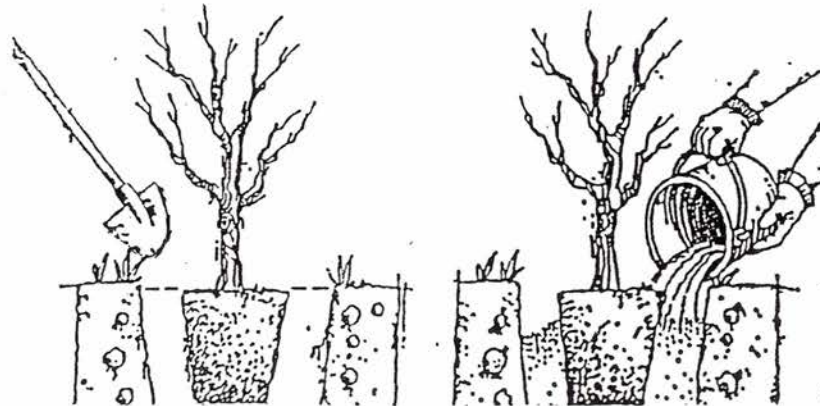
Small plants (6"- 8" pot size)

- ¼ bag of Planting Soil (1 cu. ft.)
- ½ cup Milorganite or Espoma Flower Tone
- 1 Teaspoon of Hort-a-sorb (if a dry location)

Large plants (10"- 12" pot size)

- ½ bag of Planting Soil (1 cu. ft.)
- 1 cup Milorganite or Espoma Flower Tone
- 1 Tablespoon of Hort-a-sorb (if a dry location)

Water plants daily for the first 30-45 days to get them established.



Information Resources

- <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw057>
- <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/lawnandgarden/typesofgardens/butterflygardens.html>
- <http://polkhort.ifas.ufl.edu/documents/publications/featured/Butterfly%20Gardening%20for%20Central%20FL.pdf>
- www.butterflywebsite.com
- <http://polkmastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu>