

Some Top Plants for Butterflies

Annuals:

Ageratum: pink and dark wine varieties especially attractive
Borage: a large herb with blue flowers, often reseeds itself
Heliotrope; fragrant, beautiful purple flowers
Lantana: smells bad to us but butterflies love it
Marigolds: especially the single varieties in shades of yellow
Nasturtiums in orange, red and gold colours
Annual Phlox
Sunflowers
Verbena
Zinnia

Perennials:

Asters
Bee balm and wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa* or *A. incarnata*)
Coneflowers (*Echinacea*, various colours)
Coreopsis (tickseeds, either thread leaved or regular)
Cupid's Dart (*Catanache*)
Dianthus, various from pinks to Sweet William
Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*, purple and red varieties)
Polygonum, Japanese Fleece Flower
Hollyhocks (singleflowered)
Helenium (Helen's flower, sneezeweed)
Gayfeather (*Liatris*)
False Indigo (*Baptisia*)
Lobelia (*Lobelia cardinalis*, *L. siphilitica*)
Mallow (*Malva*)
Snakeroot, bugbane (*Cimicifuga* or *Actaea*)
Knautia, *Knautia macedonica*
Perennial phlox (*Phlox maculata*, *P. paniculata*)
Sedums: (various) including Autumn Joy, Voodoo
Rudbeckia: Indian Summer, Goldsturm
Scabiosa, pinkcushion flower
Chocolate boneset (Eupatorium 'Chocolate')
Sages and Salvia, *Salvia* species
Spiked speedwell (*Veronica* Red Fox, Blue Bouquet)
Yarrow (*Achillea*)

Shrubs and trees:

Butterfly bush, *Buddleia* grows quickly from a small transplant to a 6 foot flowering shrub in one season.
Tree mallows, *Hibiscus syriacus*
Dogwoods (*Cornus* species)

Hawthorn (*Crataegus*)
Lilacs (*Syringa*)
Mock Orange (*Philadelphus*)
Spirea
Summersweet (*Clethra*)
Viburnum

Native Plants:

Asters
Clovers (*Trifolium* species)
Lupines
Milkweed (*Asclepias*)
Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*)
Nettles (*Urtica*)
Goldenrods (*Solidago* species)
Pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)
Turtlehead (*Chelone*)
Joe-Pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*)
Valerian

Some Recommended Reference Books

Kris Wetherbee: Attracting Birds, butterflies and other winged wonders to your backyard. Lark Books, 2005.
Sally Roth: Natural Landscaping: Gardening with Nature to Create a Backyard Paradise. Rodale Press, 1997.
Sally Roth: Attracting Butterflies and Hummingbirds to Your Backyard. Rodale Press, 2001.
Rosemary Creeser: Wildlife Friendly Plants. Firefly Books, 2004.