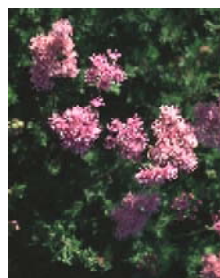


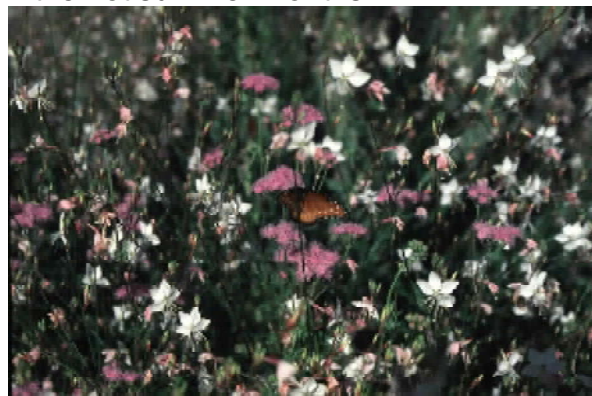
Butterfly Magnets



Recently we've noticed a big interest in butterfly gardening, and decided it was time to put together this information. Along with observations from Tucson botanist Greg Starr, two sources of information were particularly helpful: the booklet "Desert Butterfly Gardening", published by the Arizona Native Plant Society and the Sonoran Arthropod Studies Institute; and the book "Native Gardens for Dry Climates", by Sally and Andy Wasowski.

One of the best plants for attracting butterflies into the garden is **Eupatorium greggii Boothill™**. In low desert areas, **Boothill™** prefers some light filtered shade, making it an ideal understory plant for mesquites and palo verdes. Each plant will grow to about 18 inches tall by 2-3 feet wide. In the spring, summer and fall it produces fuzzy lavender flowers that the butterflies seem to find irresistible. This perennial will probably freeze back to the ground in the winter, but recovers quickly from underground stems. Our friends in high elevations can use it too! Try combining **Boothill™** with *Gaura lindheimeri*, a perennial with spikes of delicate white flowers. They both have similar requirements, preferring some light shade and ample irrigation in the hot summer months.

In a butterfly garden you should provide both nectar sources and larval foodplants. Adult butterflies feed on the nectar of certain flowers, while the caterpillars feed on specific plants known as "larval foodplants". Try to combine plants to provide a year-round source of nectar, if possible. Limit or eliminate the use of pesticides and other chemicals in the garden, as they can kill caterpillars and adult butterflies.



You can expect butterflies to be most active during ideal conditions: Sunny, calm days, when the temperatures range from 65 to 95 degrees fahrenheit. They seem to prefer early mornings and evenings during the hot summer months. On the following list we have included the "butterfly plants" that we grow, as well as a few others that you may be able to locate elsewhere. The notation "N" indicates a nectar source, while "L" identifies larval foodplants. Some plants provide both!

PLANTS FOR BUTTERFLY GARDENS

Genus species	Common Name	Type	Notes
Acacia angustissima	Fern Acacia	Shrub	Larval Food
Acacia greggii	Catclaw Acacia	Tree	Adult Food

Butterfly Gardening

<i>Ageratum corymbosum</i>	Butterfly Mist Shrub	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Aloysia gratissima</i>	Bee Bush	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Asclepias linaria</i>	Pineleaf Milkweed	Shrub	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Asclepias subulata</i>	Milkweed	Shrub	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>	Indian Broom	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Baileya multiradiata</i>	Desert Marigold	Annual	Adult Food
<i>Berlandiera lyrata</i>	Chocolate Flower	Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Buddleja marrubifolia</i>	Butterfly Bush	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Caesalpinea pulcherrima</i>	Red Bird of Paradise	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Calliandra californica</i>	Fairy Duster	Shrub	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	Baja Fairy Duster	Shrub	Larval Food
<i>Celtis pallida</i>	Desert Hackberry	Large shrub	Larval Food
<i>Celtis reticulata</i>	Hackberry	Tree	Larval Food
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Desert Willow	Tree	Adult Food
<i>Chrysactinia mexicana</i>	-	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	Rabbit Brush	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Cordia parvifolia</i>	Littleleaf Cordia	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Dalea frutescens</i> Sierra Negra™	Dalea	Shrub	Larval Food
<i>Dalea greggii</i>	Trailing Dalea	Groundcover	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Dalea pulchra</i>	Dalea	Shrub	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Dyssodia pentachaeta</i>	Golden Dyssodia	Sm Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	Brittlebush	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Ericameria laricifolia</i>	Turpentine Bush	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Erigeron divergens</i>	Buckwheat	Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	-	-	Adult Food
<i>Eupatorium greggii</i> Boothill™	Eupatorium	Small Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>	Apache Plume	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Hyptis emoryi</i>	Desert Lavender	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Lantana montevidensis</i>	Trailing Lantana	Groundcover	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Leucaena retusa</i>	Golden Leadball	Tree	Adult Food
<i>Leucophyllum</i> spp.	Texas Sages	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Lycium</i> spp.	Wolfberry	Large Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Lysiloma thornberi</i>	Feather Bush	Tree	Adult Food
<i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>	Blackfoot Daisy	Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Oenothera caespitosa</i>	Evening Primrose	Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Pasiflora foetida</i>	Passion Flower	Vine	Larval Food
<i>Penstemon</i> spp.	Penstemon	Perennial	Larval Food
<i>Plumbago scandens</i> Summer Snow™	Plumbago	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Salvia clevelandii</i>	-	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Salvia greggii</i>	Autumn Sage	Shrub	Adult Food
<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	Globe Mallow	Perennial	Adult & Larval Food
<i>Tagetes lemmonii</i>	Mt. Lemmon Marigold	Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Verbena goodingii</i>	Desert Verbena	Perennial	Adult Food
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Monk's Pepper	Tree	Adult Food

Native trees listed in the songbird table can also be used for peripheral plantings and shade for butterflies.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

1. Provide a variety of plants that feed larval and adult butterflies. Food plants need to provide for two different stages of the butterfly's life: larval and adult. Therefore, it is important to have an adequate mix of plants that will support larvae and other plants that will be available for the adults.

2. Emphasize massing of plants. Massing should be relatively greater in butterfly gardens compared to bird gardens. This is due to the greater recognition factor of plant masses rather than a singular plant by adult butterflies. Use of accent plants (unique shape such as agaves or yuccas) with the many masses can create effective contrast and interest for the garden visitor.

3. Provide sunny, wind-protected locations. Butterflies are cold-blooded and need sunlight to warm the muscles they use to fly, and protection from wind when feeding.

4. Provide a puddle. Butterflies require a shallow puddle or moist soil for water. A slow dripping emitter near a water-loving plant can fulfill this need.

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