



# New Jersey Butterfly Club

[www.njbutterflies.org](http://www.njbutterflies.org)



## BUTTERFLY CATERPILLAR PLANTS FOR NEW JERSEY GARDENS

(Butterfly species most likely to visit gardens are shown in **boldface**)

NATIVE HOSTPLANTS		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Butterfly Species
Violets	<i>Viola</i> spp.	<b>Great Spangled Fritillary</b> , Meadow Fritillary
Milkweeds	<i>Asclepias</i> spp. (Common, Swamp, Butterfly)	<b>Monarch</b>
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Baltimore Checkerspot
Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria</i> spp.	<b>American Lady</b>
Sweet Everlasting	<i>Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium</i>	<b>American Lady</b>
False Nettle	<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i>	<b>Red Admiral</b> , Question Mark, Eastern Comma
Asters	<i>Aster</i> (aka <i>Symphotrichum</i> )	<b>Pearl Crescent</b>
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i> (most other native Carrot Family genera also used)	<b>Black Swallowtail</b>
<b>Pea Family:</b>	Many species used	<b>Gray Hairstreak</b> , Eastern Tailed-Blue
Showy Tick-Trefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	<b>Silver-spotted Skipper</b> , Hoary Edge, Southern and Northern Cloudywings, <b>Gray Hairstreak</b>
Roundheaded Bush-clover	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Hoary Edge, Southern and Northern Cloudywings
Blue False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	<b>Silver-spotted Skipper</b> , Wild Indigo
Wild Lupine	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	<b>Duskywing</b>
<b>Grass Family:</b>		
Bluegrasses	<i>Poa</i> spp.	<b>Little Wood-Satyr</b> , Common Wood-Nymph, Peck's Skipper, Tawny-edged Skipper, Northern Broken-Dash, Crossline Skipper, Delaware Skipper, Hobomok Skipper
Panic grasses	<i>Panicum</i> spp.	Northern Pearly-eye, <b>Indian Skipper</b> , Delaware Skipper, Hobomok Skipper
Bluestem Grasses	<i>Andropogon</i> , <i>Schizachyrium</i>	Northern Pearly-eye, <b>Common Wood-Nymph</b> , <b>Indian Skipper</b>
Bottlebrush Grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Northern Pearly-eye
Purpletop Tridens	<i>Tridens flavus</i>	<b>Common Wood-Nymph</b> , Crossline Skipper, <b>Little Glassywing</b> , Zabulon Skipper
<b>Shrubs:</b>		
Blueberries	<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.	<b>Striped Hairstreak</b> , Spring Azure
Viburnums	Native <i>Viburnum</i> spp.	<b>Spring Azure</b>
Dogwoods (shrub)	<i>Cornus sericea</i> , <i>amomum</i> , <i>racemosa</i>	<b>Summer Azure</b>
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	<b>Spicebush Swallowtail</b>
Prickly-ash	<i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i>	<b>Giant Swallowtail</b>
Common Hoptree	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	<b>Giant Swallowtail</b>
Willows	<i>Salix</i> spp.	<b>Mourning Cloak</b> , Viceroy, <b>Red-spotted Purple</b>
Winged Sumac	<i>Rhus copallina</i>	<b>Red-banded Hairstreak</b>
<b>Trees:</b>		
Oaks	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	Banded, Oak, and White M Hairstreaks; Sleepy, Juvenal's, and Horace's Duskywings
Hickories	<i>Carya</i> spp.	Hickory Hairstreak
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Butterfly Species</b>
Elms	<i>Ulmus</i> spp.	<b>Question Mark</b> , Mourning Cloak

Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Juniper Hairstreak
Sweetbay	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	<b>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail</b>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	<b>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Coral Hairstreak, Striped Hairstreak, Red-spotted Purple</b>
Birches	<i>Betula</i> spp.	<b>Red-spotted Purple</b>
Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	<b>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail</b>
Pines	<i>Pinus</i> spp.	Eastern Pine Elfin
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	<b>Hackberry and Tawny Emperors, American Snout, Question Mark, Mourning Cloak</b>
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	<b>Spicebush Swallowtail</b>
Aspens / Poplars	<i>Populus</i> spp.	<b>Mourning Cloak, Red-spotted Purple, Viceroy, Dreamy Duskywing</b>
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	<b>Silver-spotted Skipper</b>
Willows	<i>Salix</i> spp.	<b>Mourning Cloak, Viceroy, Red-spotted Purple</b>
<b>NON-NATIVE HOSTPLANTS</b>		
<b>Carrot Family:</b>		
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	<b>Black Swallowtail</b>
Dill	<i>Anethum graveolens</i>	<b>Black Swallowtail</b>
Parsley	<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>	<b>Black Swallowtail</b>
Queen Anne's Lace	<i>Daucus carota</i>	<b>Black Swallowtail</b>
<b>Mallow Family:</b>		
Hollyhock	<i>Alcea rosea</i>	<b>Gray Hairstreak</b>
High Mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i> 'Zebrina'	<b>Gray Hairstreak</b>
<b>Pea Family:</b>		
	<i>Many species used</i>	<b>Gray Hairstreak, Eastern Tailed-Blue</b>
Clovers	<i>Trifolium</i> spp.	<b>Orange Sulphur, Clouded Sulphur</b>
Common Rue	<i>Ruta graveolans</i>	<b>Giant Swallowtail, Black Swallowtail</b>
Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	<b>Common Buckeye</b>
<b>Vines:</b>		
Pipevine	<i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i>	<b>Pipevine Swallowtail</b>
Common Hops	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	<b>Eastern Comma</b>
<b>Shrubs:</b>		
Common Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	<b>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail</b>
<b>Trees:</b>		
Magnolia	<i>Magnolia</i> spp. (cultivated)	<b>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail</b>

**When you purchase plants for butterflies, check with the seller to be SURE that the grower has NOT treated them with systemic insecticides ("neonics")—treated plants will KILL caterpillars and butterflies!**

**LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BUTTERFLIES AND BUTTERFLY GARDENING  
ON THE WEBSITE OF THE NEW JERSEY BUTTERFLY CLUB:**

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