

## Plants that Attract Butterflies Brazos County, Texas

To have habitat for butterflies our first concern is not using pesticides and herbicides. Next is providing both host plants for the caterpillars to eat and nectar plants for the adult butterflies. Plants attractive to butterflies need to be available year round. Due to long periods of little rain fall during some periods of the year it is necessary to have a source for supplemental watering. A drip water method will not wash nectar from the flowers.

Butterfly caterpillars are picky about what they eat depending on the kind of butterfly. An example is that our state insect the Monarch butterfly eats only milkweed. Butterflies like cluster flowers and patches of the same plant or color of flowers. Purple seems to be a favorite color.

This list of plants are easy to grow and generally available in the Brazos County area or could be ordered from Texas Native Plant Nurseries as seed or plants.

### Spring Plants

Fennel  
Dill  
Parsley  
Verbena  
Salvia greggi



Black Swallowtail on Fennel

Milkweed  
Larkspur  
Yarrow  
Senna  
Hackberry  
Willow tree



Long-tailed Skipper on Milkweed

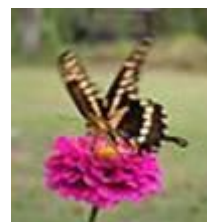
### Summer through Fall Plants

Black-eyed Susan  
Plumbago  
Goldenrod  
Pipe-vine  
Passion-vine  
Sedum  
Sunflower  
Hollyhock  
Coneflower  
Lantana



Painted Lady on Black-eyed Susan

Zinnia  
Candlestick (Cassia)  
Buddleia  
Mist flower  
Tithonia  
Partridge pea(Senna)  
Gomphrena  
Salvia  
Citrus



Giant Swallowtail on Zinnia

### Winter Plants

Rosemary, Violets, Rue, Snapdragon

Some butterflies like over ripe fruit such as bananas and oranges. Some like wet soil for minerals. These are just some of the plants that can be used in butterfly gardens.

### Brazos Valley Butterflies

These are some of the butterflies that are common in the Brazos Valley. Expect to see them at different times of the year.

Gulf Fritillary  
Swallowtails  
Snouts  
Admiral  
Queen  
Skippers



Fritillary on Passion-vine

Monarch  
Sulphurs  
Tawny Emperor  
Hairstreaks  
Buckeye  
Painted Lady



Monarch on Yarrow

Provided by A&M Garden Club for Brazos County, Texas

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