

Butterfly Nectar Plants: The Law of Attraction

If you want to start your own butterfly garden, then you'll need to select some flowers and other plants which will attract them. For that, you must choose types which are common sources of food for various kinds of butterflies.

The plants that you choose will need to bloom continuously throughout the summer, and provide a lot of nectar, and you'll have to have a variety. You'll need flowers which bloom during the mid-to-late summer, since butterflies tend to be most active at that time.

Annuals usually bloom all summer long, so you should include many annuals in your garden if you want continuous blooms. There are many perennials which are also good at attracting butterflies, but it's possible that they won't bloom throughout the season.

You want to ensure that the larger plants are toward the back and the shorter ones are up front. Taller plants can provide protection from the wind, which normally disturbs butterflies and their eggs, and if you put them toward the back, then they won't block your view of your butterflies!

There are a number of trees and shrubs which you may use as windbreaks in your butterfly garden. It may be that these trees and shrubs will also draw in butterflies because of their sweet, nectar-producing blooms. You can try mock oranges, pear trees, privet hedge, plum trees, butterfly bush, abelia, hawthorn, buttonbush, blueberry, redbud, autumn olive, rose of Sharon, buddleia, and summersweet.

The ability to bloom for the majority of the summer season is a great help to butterfly gardens, which is why annuals are so important. Marigolds, cosmos, zinnias, and the sunflower are all model annuals for drawing butterflies. Other attractive annuals for placement in butterfly gardens include nasturtium, impatiens, verbena, Queen Anne's lace, and globe amaranth.

You can also bring in many butterflies by planting wildflowers. It's easy to plant wildflowers, which is great. If you like, you're able just to sprinkle whole handfuls of your wildflower seeds throughout an area you want covered with them! Certainly, a portion will be consumed by birds or other animals, but a lot of them will survive and grow.

Coneflowers, spearmint, butterfly weed, thistles, ironweed, milkweed, and New England asters are all good wildflowers to attract butterflies. Some wildflowers that are very good at drawing butterflies are thought too weedy for most gardens. Examples of these weed-like wildflowers are dogbane, goldenrod, and nettles.

Perennials are a very important portion in any butterfly garden, even though they often don't bloom throughout the mid-to-late summer season. Since some butterflies like specific flowers over others, and perennials are among those types, it's vital to include a good mix of flowers in your butterfly garden.

There are quite a few perennial flowers which are great for enticing butterflies and supplying nectar for them. Coneflower, aster, lobelia, Shasta daisy, hibiscus, passion flower, day lily, bee-balm, chives, goldenrod, mountain mint, sage, butterfly weed, false indigo, coreopsis, phlox, black-eyed Susan, milkweed, hollyhock, and verbena are all fine types of perennials for use in butterfly gardens. These kinds are all valued for their capacity to supply nectar to butterflies, and they should be included in any butterfly garden.

About the Author

Source: <http://diygardeningtips.com>