



BUTTERFLY PLANTS – BOERNE / SAN ANTONIO AREA

Compiled by Patty Leslie Pasztor

Nectar Source for adults (**N**) & Larval food for immatures (**LF**)

(Butterflies listed for larval food is a work-in-progress)

* indicates plant is non-native

TREES:

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Anaqua | <i>Ehretia anacua</i> | N |
| Cherry, Escarpment Black | <i>Prunus serotina var.eximia</i> | N, LF (TigerSw., Red-spot. Admiral, & more) |
| Eve's Necklace | <i>Sophora affinis</i> | N |
| Golden-Ball Lead Tree | <i>Leuceana retusa</i> | N |
| Hackberry/Sugarberry | <i>Celtis laevigata</i> | LF (Hackberry & Tawny Emperor, |
| Empress | | Leila, Question Mark, American Snout) |
| Hop Bush/Skunkbush | <i>Ptelia trifoliata</i> | N, LF (Giant Swallowtail, Two-tailed Swal.) |
| Juniper/Mountain Cedar | <i>Juniperus ashei</i> | LF (Juniper Hairstreak) |
| Mesquite | <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> | N, LF (Blues) |
| Mex. Olive/Anacahuita | <i>Cordia boisseri</i> | N will freeze back cold winters (S.TX |
| native) | | |
| Mountain Laurel | <i>Sophora secundiflora</i> | N, LF (Henry's Elfin) |
| Oaks | <i>Quercus sp.</i> | N, LF (Arizona Sister & others) |
| Orchid Tree (Anacacho) | <i>Bauhinia lunarioides</i> | N, LF (Long-tailed Skipper) |
| Persimmon | <i>Diospyros texana</i> | N, LF (Gray hairstreak, Henry's Elfin) |
| Plum, Mexican | <i>Prunus mexicana,</i> | N, LF (Tiger Swallowtail) |
| Redbud | <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | N, LF (Henry's Elfin) |
| Rough-leaf Dogwood | <i>Cornus drummondii</i> | N, LF (spring azure) |
| Rusty Black haw | <i>Viburnum rufidulum</i> | N |
| Soapberry | <i>Sapindus saponaria var.dru</i> | N, LF (Soapberry hairstreak) |
| Toothache tree/bush | <i>Zanthoxylum hirsutum</i> | N, LF (Giant Swallowtail) |
| Walnut | <i>Juglans major,J. microcarpa</i> | LF (Hairstreaks) |
| Willow, Black | <i>Salix nigra</i> | LF (Viceroy, Mourning cloak) |
| *Tree Senna | <i>Senna corymbosa</i> | N, LF (sulphur butterflies) from S. Amer. |

SHRUBS:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Agarita | <i>Berberis trifoliolata</i> | N |
| Barbados Cherry | <i>Malpighia glabra</i> | N, (native to extreme S, TX) |
| Buttonbush | <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> | N (moist areas) |
| Boneset/WhiteMist Flower | <i>Eupatorium havanense</i> | N, LF (Rawson's Metalmark) |
| Cenizo | <i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i> | N, LF (Theona checkerspot) |
| Dalea, Black | <i>Dalea frutescens</i> | N, LF (Southern Dogface) |
| Flame Acanthus | <i>Anisacanthus quadrididis</i> | N, LF (Crimson patch, Texan Crescent, |
| Elada Checkerspot) | | |
| Esperanza/Yellow Bells | <i>Tecoma stans</i> | N |
| Evergreen Sumac | <i>Rhus virens</i> | N LF (Dusky-blue Groundstreak) |
| Kidneywood | <i>Eysenhardtia texana</i> | N, LF (Southern Dogface) |
| Lantana | <i>Lantana spp.</i> | N, LF (Painted Lady, Lantana Hairstreak) |
| Mexican Buckeye | <i>Ungnadia speciosa</i> | N, LF (Henry's Elfin) |
| Salvia greggii | <i>Salvia greggii</i> | N |
| Shrubby Blue Sage | <i>Salvia ballotiflora</i> | N |
| Spicebush | <i>Lindera benzoin</i> | LF (Spicebush Swallowtail) needs moisture |
| Spiny Hackberry | <i>Celtis pallida</i> | N, LF (American Snout) |
| *Mexican Orchid tree | <i>Bauhinia mexicana</i> | N swallowtails love it- freezes back winters |
| *Monterrey Dalea | <i>Dalea bicolor</i> | N from Mexico |
| *Abelia | <i>Abelia grandiflora & hybrids</i> | N from China |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| *Butterfly Bush | <i>Buddleja spp.</i> | N from China |
| *Plumbago | <i>Plumbago australis</i> | N from Africa |

VINES:

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Coral Honeysuckle | <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> | N, LF (spring Azure, Hawk moth) |
| White/Bush Honeysuckle | <i>Lonicera albiflora</i> | N |
| Passionflower | <i>Passiflora sp.</i> | LF (Gulf Fritillary, Zebra, Var. Frit) |
| Pipevine/Swan-flower | <i>Aristolochia spp.</i> | LF (Pipevine Swallowtail) |
| Snapdragon Vine | <i>Maurandya antirrhiniflora</i> | N, LF (Buckeye) |
| *Mexican Flame Vine | <i>Senecio confusus</i> | N from Mexico |
| * Dutchman's Pipe Swallowtail) from Brazil | <i>Aristolochia fimbriata</i> | LF (Pipevine swallowtail, Polydamas) |

Garden & Wildflowers:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Columbine | <i>Aquilegia spp.</i> | N |
| Greg's Mist | <i>Eupatorium greggii</i> | N |
| Frogfruit | <i>Phyla incisa</i> | N LF (Phaon Crescent, White Peacock) |
| Lindheimer's Senna | <i>Senna lindheimeri</i> | N, LF (Sleepy Orange & other sulfurs) |
| Milkweed/Antelope Horns | <i>Asclepias asperula</i> | N, LF (Monarch, Queen) |
| Mexican Butterflyweed | <i>Asclepias currasavica</i> | N, LF (Monarch, Queen) aka Tropicmilkweed |
| Paintbrush | <i>Castilleja sp.</i> | N, LF (Buckeye) |
| Phlox / Summer Phlox | <i>Phlox paniculata</i> | N needs a little more water & aft. shade |
| Salvia (many species) | <i>Salvia spp.</i> | N (Tropical /Red, Cedar Sage, Mealy) |
| Blue, Mexican Bush Sage, Indigo Spires, etc.) | | |
| Turk's Cap | <i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i> | N (Tuk's Cap White Skipper) |
| Verbena | <i>Verbena sp.</i> | N |
| Sunflower Family: | (most in this family provide nectar as well as LF for several butterflies) | |
| Blackfoot Daisy | <i>Melampodium sp.</i> | N |
| Coreopsis | <i>Coreopsis/Thelesperma spp.</i> | N, LF (Dainty Sulphur) |
| Cowpen Daisy | <i>Verbesina encelioides</i> | N, LF (Bordered Patch) |
| Engelmann Daisy | <i>Engelmannia pinnatifida</i> | N |
| Frostweed / Iceweed | <i>Verbesina virginiana</i> | N, LF (Silvery Checkerspot) |
| Gayfeather | <i>Liatris mucronata</i> | N |
| Indian Blanket/Firewheel | <i>Gaillardia pulchella</i> | N |
| Orange Zexmenia | <i>Wedelia hispida</i> | N (Bordered patch) |
| Purple Coneflower | <i>Echinaceae purpurea</i> | N |
| Yarrow | <i>Achillea millifolium</i> | N |
| *Copper Canyon Daisy & Mexican Mint Marigold | | N from Mexico |
| *Mexican Sunflower | <i>Tithonia rotundifolia</i> | N from Mexico |
| *Pentas | <i>Pentas lanceolata</i> | N from Africa |
| *Bachelor Buttons/Gomphrena | | N |
| *Celery, Dill, Fennel, Parsley | | LF (Black Swallowtail) |
| *Rue | | LF (Giant swallowtail, Black swallowtail) |
| *Cosmos & Zinnia | | N |
| Native grasses | | LF (various skippers) |

References:

Butterfly Gardening for the South by Geyata Ajilvsgi, 1990., Butterflies of North America by Jim Brock & Kenn Kaufman, 2003., Caterpillar Food Plants for Central Texas by Mike Quinn (Invertebrate Biologist, Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.) 2004., Eastern Butterflies – Peterson Field Guide by Paul Opler, 1992., and personal communication – Joseph F. (Terry) Doyle, San Antonio, Texas. For additions/corrections or further info., contact Patty at pasztor@ix.netcom.com