



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.	Great Spangled Fritillary , Meadow Fritillary
Milkweeds	<i>Asclepias</i> spp. (Common, Swamp, Butterfly)	Monarch
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Baltimore Checkerspot
Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria</i> spp.	American Lady
Sweet Everlasting	<i>Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium</i>	American Lady
False Nettle	<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i>	Red Admiral , Question Mark, Eastern Comma
Asters	<i>Aster</i> (aka <i>Symphotrichum</i> , <i>Eurybia</i>)	Pearl Crescent
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i> (most other native Carrot Family genera also used)	Black Swallowtail
Pea Family:	Many species used	Gray Hairstreak , Eastern Tailed-Blue
Showy Tick-Trefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Silver-spotted Skipper , Hoary Edge, Southern and Northern Cloudywing, Gray Hairstreak
Roundheaded Bush-clover	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Hoary Edge, Southern and Northern Cloudywing
Grass Family:		
Bluegrasses	<i>Poa</i> spp.	Little Wood-Satyr , 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, Indian Skipper , Delaware Skipper , Hobomok Skipper
Bluestem Grasses	<i>Andropogon</i> , <i>Schizachyrium</i>	Northern Pearly-eye, Common Wood-Nymph , Indian Skipper
Bottlebrush Grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Northern Pearly-eye
Purpletop Tridens	<i>Tridens flavus</i>	Common Wood-Nymph , Crossline Skipper , Little Glassywing , Zabulon Skipper
Shrubs:		
Blueberries	<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.	Striped Hairstreak , Spring Azure
Viburnums	Native <i>Viburnum</i> spp.	Spring Azure
Dogwoods (shrub)	<i>Cornus sericea</i> , <i>amomum</i> , <i>racemosa</i>	Summer Azure
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush Swallowtail
Prickly-ash	<i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i>	Giant Swallowtail
Common Hoptree	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	Giant Swallowtail
Willows	<i>Salix</i> spp.	Mourning Cloak , Viceroy, Red-spotted Purple
Winged Sumac	<i>Rhus copallina</i>	Red-banded Hairstreak
Trees:		
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
Elms	<i>Ulmus</i> spp.	Question Mark , Mourning Cloak
Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Juniper Hairstreak

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

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 NORTH JERSEY BUTTERFLY CLUB:**

www.naba.org/chapters/nabanj