



# NORTH AMERICAN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION

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## CENTRAL ARIZONA HIGHLANDS (PRESCOTT AREA)

by Eve Gill

### TOP BUTTERFLY NECTAR FLOWERS

A number in front of a flower name indicates a particularly recommended plant (1 = most recommended). Codes in "BLOOM SEASON" correspond to the season (S = spring, X = summer, F = fall). Abbreviations: A = alien species, N = native species.

	FLOWER	HEIGHT	COLOR	BLOOM SEASON	ATTRACTED BUTTERFLIES	COMMENTS
N	False indigo <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	high	purple	S	Blues	beautiful landscape plant
N	Narrowleaf milkweed <i>Asclepias angustifolia</i>	medium	white	S-X	many	not in nursery trade
(A)	Woolly butterflybush <i>Buddleia marubifolia</i>	high	orange	S-F	many	native to Texas; not extremely cold tolerant
A 2	Pincushion flower <i>Scabiosa</i> hybrids and cultivars	low	lavender-	S-F	many	
A 1	Butterfly bush <i>Buddleia davidii</i>	high	pink	X-F	many	
A	French marigold <i>Tagetes patula</i>	low	orange	X-F	Skippers	
A	Horehound <i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	low	white	X-F	many	weedy; invasive; often the only thing blooming
(A)	Purple coneflower <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	medium	pink	X-F	Skippers and others	native to Great Plains
N	Threadleaf groundsel <i>Senecio douglasii</i>	medium	yellow	X-F	many	not in nursery trade
A 3	White sweet clover <i>Melilotus alba</i>	high	white	X-F	Blues and others	weedy; invasive
N	Buckwheat <i>Eriogonum wrightii</i>	low	white	F	Blues, Mormon Metalmark	not in nursery trade
N	Scruffy prairie clover <i>Dalea albiflora</i>	medium	white	F	Blues	not in nursery trade

### NECTAR FLOWERS THAT DON'T WORK IN THIS REGION

Abbreviations: A = alien species, N = native species.

FLOWER	COMMENTS
Aster 'Butterfly Rose'	A great bloomer, but I've never seen a butterfly on it. However, we have many native species of aster that could be used.

## CENTRAL ARIZONA HIGHLANDS

### TOP CATERPILLAR FOOD PLANTS

A number in front of a plant name indicates a particularly recommended plant (1 = most recommended). Abbreviations: A = alien species, N = native species.

	NAME	HEIGHT	BUTTERFLY CATERPILLARS	COMMENTS
N	Alligator juniper <i>Juniperus deppeana</i>	high	Juniper Hairstreak	
N	Buckwheat <i>Eriogonum wrightii</i>	low	Mormon Metalmark	Good nectar source too.
N	False indigo <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	high	Southern Dogface, Marine Blue	
N	Fendler's buckbrush <i>Ceanothus fendleri</i>	medium-	Nais Metalmark, Pacuvius Duskywing	Good nectar source too.
N	Gambel oak <i>Quercus gambellii</i>	high	California Sister, Mournful Duskywing	Other oaks may also be used.
N 3	Indian paintbrush <i>Castilleja integra</i>	low	Leanira Checkerspot	Paintbrush is symbiont (needs to grow) with grasses.
N	Mistletoe <i>Phoradendron coryaeshrubs</i>	on trees &	Great Purple Hairstreak	Bluebirds love berries.
N	Native bunch grasses (many species)	low- medium	potentially Satyrs and Skippers	
N 3	Showy milkweed <i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	high	Monarch	Monarch preferred this over 2 other species of milkweed.
N 1	Stiffarm rock cress <i>Arabis perennans</i>	low	Sara Orangetip	
N 2	Velvet ash <i>Fraxinus velutina</i>	tall	Two-tailed Swallowtail	A riparian (riverside) tree.

### COMMON BUTTERFLIES FOR YOUR GARDEN & YARD

A number in front of a butterfly name indicates a particularly likely species (1 = most expected to be seen). Numbers in "FLIGHT PERIOD" and "CATERPILLAR SEASON" correspond to the month (4 = April, 5 = May, etc.), with < meaning earlier in the month, m the middle of the month, and > late in the month.

Note: Flight periods reflect four years of record keeping in my garden. The climate is variable, so flight periods are variable too. More species and longer flight periods are possible outside of my yard.

NAME	FLIGHT PERIOD	CATERPILLAR SEASON	CATERPILLAR FOOD PLANTS	COMMENTS
Two-tailed Swallowtail <i>Papilio multicaudata</i>	4-10	5-10	Velvet ash	"Star of Prescott"!
Sara Orangetip <i>Anthocharis sara</i>	3-4	4	Stiffarm rock cress, possibly other related	
Dainty Sulphur <i>Nathalis iole</i>	5-10	5-10	members of daisy family	

## CENTRAL ARIZONA HIGHLANDS

### COMMON BUTTERFLIES FOR YOUR GARDEN & YARD

(continued)

Juniper Hairstreak <i>Callophrys gryneus</i>	4-7		junipers
1 Gray Hairstreak <i>Strymon melinus</i>	5-7		a variety in different plant families
Reakirt's Blue <i>Hemiargus isola</i>	6-11	6-11	members of pea family
American Lady <i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>	6-12	6-12	mainly everlastings and others in daisy family
3 Painted Lady <i>Vanessa cardui</i>	4-12	4-12	a variety in many different plant families
Red Satyr <i>Satyr rubricata</i>	5-9		certain grass(es)
Monarch <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	7-10	8-9	Showy milkweed
Funereal Duskywing <i>Erynnis funeralis</i>	6-9		members of pea family
2 Orange Skipperling <i>Copaeodes aurantiacus</i>	5-10		certain grasses

### LOCAL & UNUSUAL BUTTERFLIES FOR YOUR GARDEN & YARD

Numbers in "FLIGHT PERIOD" and "CATERPILLAR SEASON" correspond to the month (4 = April, 5 = May, etc.), with < meaning earlier in the month, m the middle of the month, and > late in the month.

NAME	FLIGHT PERIOD	CATERPILLAR SEASON	CATERPILLAR FOOD PLANTS	COMMENTS
Bramble Hairstreak <i>Callophrys dumetorum</i>	7			
Red-bordered Satyr <i>Gyrocheilus patrobas</i>	9		certain grass(es)	
Orange Giant-Skipper <i>Agathymus neumoegeni</i>	10		agave	

### GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT GARDENING IN THIS REGION

#### USDA ZONE: 7

The thin granitic soils may need considerable boosting. Generally speaking, native plants can cope far better with the temperature extremes, undependable rainfall, and browsing wildlife. It is extremely important to protect new plants from too much sun and use chicken wire to prevent their being eaten by animals.

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