

## Twenty-five Kentucky Native Plants that attract Butterflies, other Pollinators and Birds

Common name	Scientific name	Type	Light Pref.	Moisture	Flowers	Height	Note
<b>SPRING</b>							
Spicebush*	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	shrub	sun, shade	avg	March-April	5-9'	<b>Host for Spicebush Swallowtail butterflies</b>
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	tree	sun, part shade	avg	April	12-25'	Early source of nectar
Wild Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	perennial	shade, sun	avg	May-June	1-2'	Attracts hummingbirds
Blueberries	<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.	shrub	sun, part shade	avg	May	3-4'	Birds feed on berries; colorful fall foliage
Trumpet Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	vine	sun, light shade	avg	April-Oct		Red tubular flowers are a magnet for hummingbirds, this vine is not invasive
Arrow-wood Viburnum*	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	shrub	sun, part shade	avg	April-May	4-15'	Spring nectar source; birds feed on blue berries; <b>host for Tawny Emperor butterflies</b>
Dutchman's Pipevine*	<i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i>	vine	sun, part shade	avg	May-June		<b>Host for Pipevine Swallowtail butterflies;</b> <i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i> similar species
Blue False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	perennial	sun	avg	May-June	3-5'	Large showy deep-blue flowers; attractive blue-green foliage
Virginia Sweetspire*	<i>Itea virginica</i>	shrub	sun, part shade	avg	May-June	3-6'	<b>Host for Azure butterflies;</b> excellent early nectar source
Golden Alexander –( native) and non-native Parsley, Dill, Fennel, Carrots, and other plants in the carrot family							<b>Host plants for Black Swallowtail butterflies</b>
<b>SUMMER</b>							
Button Bush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	shrub	sun, part shade	moist-avg	June-July	5-15'	White round flower-heads attractive to butterflies and other pollinators
Scarlet Bee Balm	<i>Monarda didyma</i>	perennial	sun, part shade	avg-moist	June	3-4'	Bright red flowers; attracts hummingbirds and butterflies
Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	perennial	sun, part shade	avg	June-August	3-4'	<b>Host for Silvery Checkerspot butterflies;</b> attracts numerous butterflies
Common Milkweed*	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	perennial	sun, part shade	avg-moist	June	3-5'	<b>Host for Monarch butterflies;</b> excellent nectar plant
Purple Milkweed*	<i>Asclepias purpurea</i>	perennial	sun	avg-moist	June-July	2-3'	<b>Host for Monarch butterflies;</b> excellent nectar plant
Swamp Milkweed*	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	perennial	sun	avg-moist	July-August	4-5'	<b>Host for Monarch butterflies;</b> excellent nectar plant
Butterfly Weed*	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	perennial	sun	avg	June-July	2-3'	<b>Host for Monarch butterflies;</b> excellent nectar plant
Tropical Milkweed * Non-native	<i>Asclepias curassavica</i>	Annual	sun	avg	July-frost	3-5'	<b>Host for Monarch butterflies;</b> excellent nectar plant, attracts migrating Monarchs

From the garden of Harry and Betty Hall. For more information contact: [BettyHall@gx.net](mailto:BettyHall@gx.net) - [www.BettyHallPhotography.com](http://www.BettyHallPhotography.com)

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Sweet Coneflower	<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	perennial	sun, part shade	avg	July-Sept	3-4'	Also called Sweet Susan; similar to Orange Coneflower – ( <i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> )
Blazing Stars	<i>Liatris</i> spp.	perennial	sun	avg	June-Sept	3-6'	Attracts butterflies; different species bloom at different times; provides vertical interest
Royal Catchfly	<i>Silene regia</i>	perennial	sun	avg	July-August	3-4'	Showy red flowers on tall stems; attracts hummingbirds; an endangered species
<b>FALL</b>							
Mist Flower	<i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>	perennial	sun, part shade	avg-moist	Aug-Oct	2-3'	Excellent late Summer and Fall source of nectar
Hearts-a-Burstin'	<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	shrub	sun, part shade	avg-moist	May-June		Also known as Strawberry Bush; showy fruits in October
Rough-leaved Goldenrod	<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	perennial	sun, part shade	avg	Sept-Oct	3-4'	All goldenrod species are excellent late source of nectar; none cause hay fever
New England Aster*	<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	perennial	sun	avg	Sept-Oct	4-5'	All asters are excellent late source of nectar, especially for migrating butterflies; <b>Hosts for Pearl Crescent butterflies</b>
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	shrub	sun, part shade	avg	May/bloom berries/Oct	10-18'	Spring nectar source; birds enjoy red berries which require female and male plants

\*indicates butterfly host plants

Information is primarily from Shooting Star Nursery catalog

### Local Sources for Milkweeds and Native Plants

- **Wild Ones** annual plant exchange – May 2, 2013, 7 p.m., for more information go to [www.wildones.org/chapters/lexington](http://www.wildones.org/chapters/lexington)
- **Down to Earth Garden Club** annual plant sale – Saturday, May 11, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., for more information go to [www.downtoearthky.com](http://www.downtoearthky.com)
- **Shooting Star Nursery**, 502-867-7979, 160 Soards Rd. - Georgetown, KY 40324, [www.shootingstarnursery.com](http://www.shootingstarnursery.com)
- **Springhouse Gardens**, 859-224-1417, Owner Richard Weber is a business member of Wild Ones, location off Harrodsburg Rd.,

4 miles south of Man-o-War, [www.springhousegardens.com](http://www.springhousegardens.com)

- **Michler's**, 859-254-0383, 417 E. Maxwell - Lexington, KY [www.michlers.com](http://www.michlers.com)
- **Dropseed Nursery**, 502-439-9033, near Louisville, KY <http://www.dropseednursery.com>
- All local garden centers are possible sources for native plants; asking for natives can encourage these centers to sell them.

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