Native and Non-Native* Caterpillar Host Plants for Showy Butterfly Species.

In order for butterfly populations to survive, their young (the caterpillars) must have plants to eat. Unlike moth caterpillars, the caterpillars of most butterfly species are found at low enough densities that they do not totally defoliate their host plant.  * Non-native host plants are indicated by an asterisk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATERPILLAR HOST PLANTS</th>
<th>BUTTERFLY</th>
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<td><strong>Asters</strong></td>
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</table>
| Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)  
  (other *Prunus* also used) | Coral Hairstreak (on Wild Plum)  
  Eastern Tiger Swallowtail  
  Red-spotted Purple  
  Striped Hairstreak (on Wild Plum) |
| Carrot Family including Queen Anne’s Lace* and many herb garden plants, *e.g.*, Parsley*, Fennel*, and Dill* | Black Swallowtail  
  *caterpillars cause heavy defoliation* |
| Common Lilac*            | Tiger Swallowtail          |
| Curled Dock* (*Rumex crispus*) | American Copper |
| Dogwood (*Comus spp.*)   | Spring Azure, Common Blue  |
| Eastern Red-cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)  
  (usually stands, not single trees) | Juniper (Olive) Hairstreak |
| Everlastings (including *Anaphilis margaritacea*,  
  *Antennaria plantaginifolia*) and other Composites | American Lady |
| New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*) | Spring Azure, Common Blue |
| Lamb’s-quarters* (*Chenopodium album*)  
  (generally regarded as a weed) | Common Sootywing |
| Lupine* (*Lupinus*)  
  (the only CT native Lupine is  
  Wild Lupine [*Lupinus perennis*]) | Eastern Tailed Blue |
| Milkweeds (*Asclepias spp.*) | Monarch |

*Continued on back*
### HOST PLANTS (continued)

- Nettles (*Urtica* spp. [some native, some not])
- False Nettle (*Boehmeria cylindrica*)
- Wood Nettle (*Laportea canadensis*)

### BUTTERFLIES (continued)

- Eastern Comma
- Question Mark
- Red Admiral

- False Nettle (*Boehmeria cylin*).
- Question Mark
- Wood Nettle (*Laportea canadensis*)
- Red Admiral

- Pea Family including many non-native species, such as Clovers*, Sweet-clovers* and Alfalfa*
  - Banded Hairstreak
  - Edward's Hairstreak
  - Juvenal’s Duskywing
  - Red Spotted Purple

- Purpletop (=Tall Redtop; *Tridens flavens*)
  - Clouded Sulphur
  - Eastern Tailed Blue
  - Orange Sulphur
  - Silver-spotted Skipper

- Sassafras tree (*Sassafras albidum*)
- Sheep-sorrel* (*Rumex acetasella*)
  - Common Wood Nymph
  - (generally regarded as a weed)
  - also Crossline Skipper
  - Little Glassywing
  - Zabulon Skipper
  - (Note: the Skippers are not strongly showy)

- Snapdragon* (*Antirrhinum majus*)
- Spicebush Swallowtail
- Common Buckeye

- Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- Spicebush Swallowtail

- Tulip-tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

- Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
- Baltimore Checkerspot

- Viburnum (*Viburnum spp.*)
- Spring Azure, Common Blue

- Violets (*Viola* spp. – most are native)
- Fritillaries

- Willows (*Salix* spp., scrubby ones; some *)
  - Viceroy
  - Mourning Cloak

- Wild False Foxgloves
  - *Aureolaria* (formerly *Gerardia*) *flava*
  - *Aureolaria* (formerly *Gerardia*) *pediculargia*
  - *Aureolaria* (formerly *Gerardia*) *virginica*
  - Baltimore Checkerspot

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