

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

A mini-sanctuary for pollinators

Did you know? India is home to around 1320 butterfly species, with 171 species in Maharashtra and 160 species in Greater Mumbai.



Common Jezebel

How You Can help?

City gardens often lack pollinators due to chemical use. Avoiding pesticides and fertilizers can attract butterflies, even to a balcony. Start a kitchen or butterfly garden using plants from this space as inspiration.



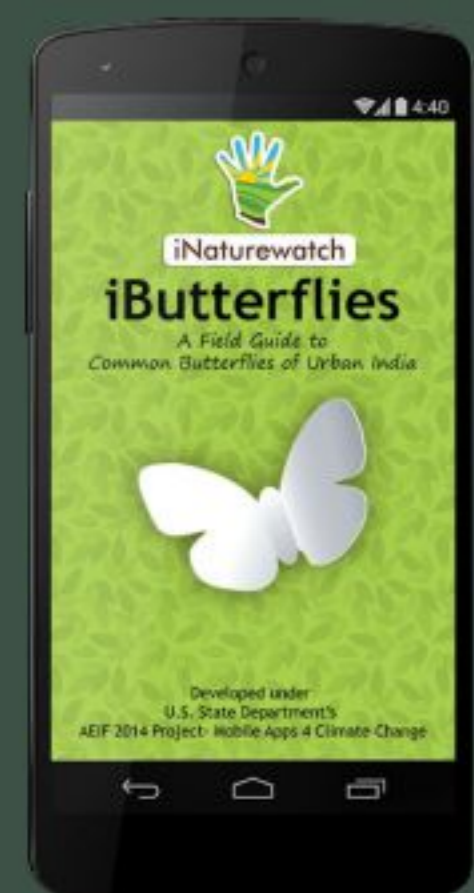
Plain Tiger Caterpillar feeding on Blood flower

DID YOU KNOW?

The term butterfly is believed to have originated when large numbers of Brimstone butterflies, with their yellowish-white wings, were seen flying. People associated their color with butter, leading to the name.



Brimstone Butterfly



To identify butterflies download iButterflies mobile app

For Marathi Scan Here



What is a butterfly garden?

A Butterfly Garden is designed to support butterflies by providing nectar plants for adults and host plants for caterpillars. This garden features 30 plant species and 300 saplings, creating a pesticide-free habitat. A butterfly feeder with ripe fruits supports non-nectar feeders, while a pond and mud-puddling corner help butterflies absorb essential minerals.

Interesting butterfly friendly plants



Blue Snake Weed, also known as Jamaican Spike, is a nectar plant that draws bees, butterflies, and birds.



Pentas is a vibrant, nectar-rich plant that enhances the garden with its bright colors.



Office Time flower serves as both a host and nectar plant for butterflies while also attracting bees.



Ruellia is a host plant for pansy butterflies. Flowers are seen in three colours; white, blue and pink.

How Butterfly Garden Works?

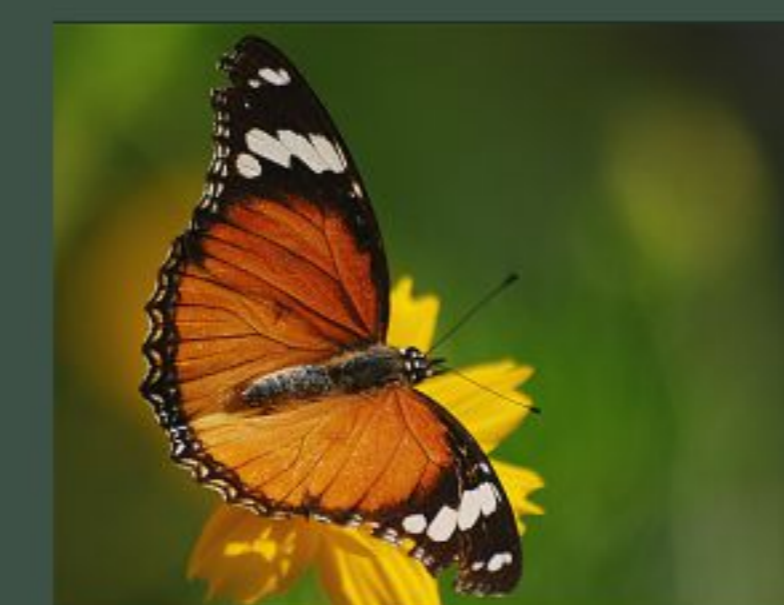
A butterfly garden thrives by using fragrant plants to attract butterflies, providing them with nectar for feeding and suitable plants for laying eggs. The eggs hatch into caterpillars, which feed on the leaves before transforming into pupae. After a few days, an adult butterfly emerges, completing the life cycle and allowing the process to continue.

Did you know butterflies are nature's tiny botanists? With sensors on their feet, they "taste" plants and instinctively lay eggs on those from the same plant family—like the Lime Butterfly choosing Lemon and Curry Leaf plants from the Rutaceae family!



Life cycle of Lime Butterfly

Some interesting butterflies



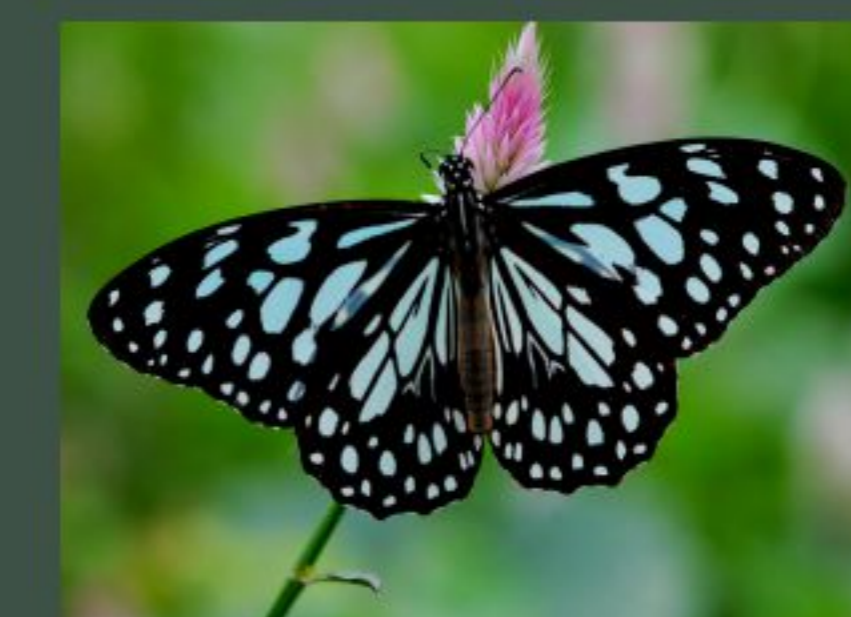
Female Danaid Eggfly imitates the unpalatable Plain Tiger butterfly.



Common Wanderer is found in both urban and forested areas.



Common Nawab avoids flowers, but an overripe fruit or a dead crab will attract this butterfly.



Blue Tiger, a milkweed butterfly, is unpalatable to birds.



State Butterfly

The Blue Mormon was declared as Maharashtra's state butterfly in June 2015, representing the state's rich biodiversity.



City Butterfly

Common Mormon is the most frequently seen butterfly in Greater Mumbai, as it lays its eggs on lemon and curry leaf plants.

Pink Tiger Moth caterpillar feeds on leaves, making sap ooze



Magic Plant!

Rattle pod is neither a nectar or hostplant but milkweed butterflies get attracted to its sap in large numbers.

