

BUTTERFLIES

PLANT A BUTTERFLY GARDEN



“People like butterflies - they reflect the beauty and fragility of nature. They like having them in their gardens and reserves, but tend to forget that to have butterflies you need their larvae – caterpillars! If we can create butterfly habitat in our gardens, and conserve existing habitat in reserves, then we will create the conditions that also ensure the survival of other invertebrates and the birds and lizards that prey upon these insects. “

Professor Tim Flannery, Author, Scientist and Environmentalist

GARDEN DESIGN

A well-designed butterfly garden will complement the patrolling, feeding, protection, resting and mating behaviours of butterflies, and result in a natural, sustainable, low-maintenance garden. The design should avoid large expanses of paving and areas that require constant manicuring, chemical control measures, excessive watering, or which are exposed to the elements (Hunt et al. - Attracting Butterflies to your Garden, 2007)

1. **Unmown grassy area.** Ideal for breeding many of the Skipper species of butterfly
2. **Paved pathway.** Provides opportunities for butterflies to bask in sun, prior to flight
3. **Rocks.** Basking places for butterflies
4. **Pond or ‘frog bog’.** Damp mud or sand on the perimeter allows butterflies to drink
5. **Sedges.** Used by many butterfly species as caterpillar food plants
6. **Ground layer plants.** Provide caterpillar food and butterfly nectar

7. **Citrus tree.** These trees provide both caterpillar food and butterfly nectar

8. **Shrubs.** Essential components of a well-structured garden. Help to provide shelter from wind and sun. Many also provide nectar or caterpillar food

9. **Grasses.** Used by many species as caterpillar food plants

10. **Trees.** Provide shade and shelter from wind and flowering varieties can provide butterfly nectar



BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Of the Adelaide Region and Mt. Lofty Ranges

The butterflies listed here are commonly seen in the indicated areas, although they may be seen in the other region as well. Some are native to SA or Australia, but others, such as the Wanderer and Cabbage White, are introduced species.



Wanderer, also known as Monarch Butterfly; Source: Kenneth Dwain Harrelson



Dainty Swallowtail, sometimes seen in the Barossa Bush-gardens; Source: David Fischer



Wanderer caterpillar; Source: Timothy Bagar

Mt. Lofty Ranges

- Phigalia Skipper
- Flame Sedge-skipper
- Donnysa Sedge-skipper
- Golden-haired Sedge-skipper
- Large Brown Skipper
- Marbled Xenica
- Broad-margined Azure
- Satin Azure
- Genoveva Azure
- Icilius Blue
- Western Dusky-blue
- Blotched Dusky-blue
- Fringed Heath-blue

Adelaide Region

- White-banded Grass-dart
- Southern Grass-dart
- Dainty Swallowtail
- Cabbage White
- Wood White
- Common Brown
- Meadow Argus
- Australian Painted Lady
- Australian Admiral
- Wanderer
- Saltbush Blue



Saltbush Blue; Source: Tobias Westmeier



Cabbage White caterpillar; Source: Peter Eeles



Pretty but a pest, Cabbage White Butterfly; Source: entomart

How to build a Butterfly Box



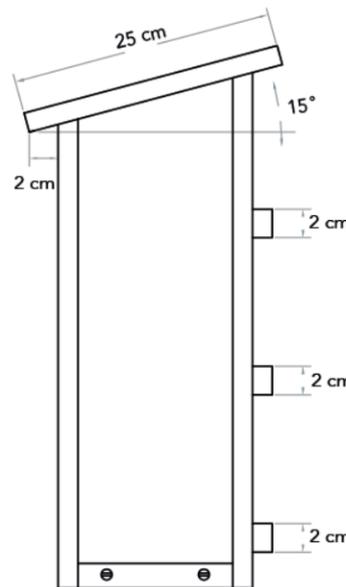
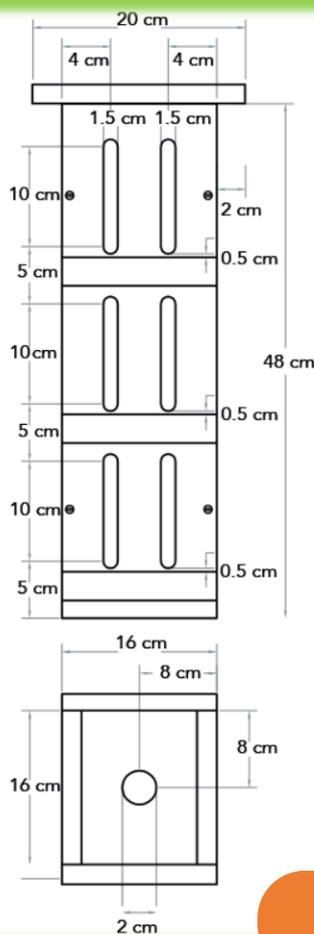
Source: Gay Baumgauner



This lovely Butterfly Box makes a graceful addition to any garden. Using a few tools and some untreated wood, it's easy to build with the help of an adult.

[YOU WILL NEED]

Untreated wood	Screws
Sand paper	A pole or wire
Nails	Twigs
Hammer	Paintbrush
Drill	Non-toxic paint



Note: all sizes given are approximate only.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Sand your wood
- Attach front and back to the top and base with screws or nails
- Attach sides with screws (so they can be removed)
- Mount on pole or attach wire to back and hang from fence - position it in a sunny spot near flowering plants or shrubs
- If desired, paint with non-toxic paint
- Place twigs and bark inside for butterflies to rest on



Barossa Bushgardens Butterfly Attracting Plants

Botanical name	Common Name	soil type	flower colour	flowering time	height	other notes
Overstorey						
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	blackwood wattle	damp sites	yellow	winter-spring	8- 15m	long lived
<i>Acacia retinodes</i>	Swamp Wattle/ Wirilda	damp sites				
<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Dryland Tea-tree	most	white	spring summer	3-8m	
Shrubs						
<i>Acacia acinacea</i>	Gold Dust Wattle	most	yellow	late winter to spring	1-2m	short lived
<i>Acacia euthycarpa</i>	Wallowa wattle		yellow	winter to spring	2-4m	short lived
<i>Acacia myrtifolia</i>	Myrtle Wattle	most	yellow	winter to spring	1.5m	frost tender short lived
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden Wattle	most	yellow	winter to spring	3-8m	short lived
<i>Acacia retinodes</i>	Swamp Wattle/ Wirilda	damp sites	yellow	summer	6m	
<i>Allocasuarina pusilla</i>	Dwarf She-oak					
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Christmas Bush	most	white	summer	1.5-4m	pruned to hight
<i>Callistemon rugulosus</i>	Scarlet Bottlebrush	most	red	spring - summer	2-4m	
<i>Callistemon sieberi</i>	river bottlebrush	damp sites	cream	spring - summer	2-3m	
<i>Callistemon teretifolius</i>	Flinders Ranges Bottlebrush	most	red	spring - summer	2m	
<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	Common Fringe- myrtle		white	spring	1.5m	slow growing

Botanical name	Common Name	soil type	flower colour	flowering time	height	other notes
Shrubs						
<i>Daviesia brevifolia</i>	bitter pea		salmon-pink	spring	1m	pea flower
<i>Daviesia ulicifolia</i>	gorse bitter pea		orange-yellow	winter to spring	1-2m	pea flower
<i>Hakea carinata</i>	keeled hakea		white	spring	2-3m	
<i>Hakea rostrata</i>	Beaked Hakea	most	white	winter-spring	1.5m	long lived/ food for the Yellow-tail Black Cockatoo
<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	Woolly Tea-tree	Sandy	n/a			
<i>Leptospermum myrsinoides</i>	Heath Tea-tree	Sandy	white	spring	1-1.5m	
<i>Senna artemisioides ssp artemisioides</i>	Punty bush, Senna					
<i>Senna artemisioides ssp coriacea</i>	Punty Bush, Senna					
<i>Senna artemisioides ssp petiolaris</i>	Punty bush, Senna					
<i>#Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata</i>	yacca, grass tree		white	autumn to winter	to 2m	slow growing
<i>#Xanthorrhoea semiplana</i>	yacca, grass tree		white	winter	to 2m	slow growing
<i>#Myoporum petiolatum</i>				winter-spring	2m	frost tender
Ground covers						
<i>#Kunzea pomifera</i>	Muntries	limestone	white	spring	1-1.5m wide	edible fruit
<i>#Myoporum parvifolium</i>		most	white	spring	3-3m wide	
climbing plants						
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Native Lilac	most	purple, white & pink	spring	can be grown as a shrub	
<i>Convolvulus remotus</i>	Australian Bindweed	most	pink	winter-summer	can be grown as a ground-cover	

Botanical name	Common Name	Soil Type	Flower colour	Flowering time	Height	Other Notes
Barossa Beauties						
<i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i>	Common Ever-lasting	most	yellow	winter-summer	0.6m	
<i>Chrysocephalum semipapposum</i>	Clustered Ever-lasting	most	yellow	late spring - summer	0.6m	
<i>Eutaxia microphylla</i>	Mallee Bush-pea					
<i>Goodenia pinnatifida</i>	Scrambled Eggs	most	yellow	late spring - summer	0.3m	mass planting
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman					
<i>Lomandra spp</i>	Iron Grass/Mat Rrush	most	of white	spring	to 0.5	clumping plant
<i>Senecio pinnatifolius</i>	Cotton Groundsel					
<i>Senecio quadridentatus</i>	Cotton Groundsel	most	yellow	spring-summer	to 1m	
<i>Vittadinia species</i>	New Holland Daisy	most	purple	summer	0.3m	
<i>Cullen australasicum</i>	Tall scurf-pea			spring - summer	1-3m	pea flower
<i>#Olearia pannosa</i>	Silver-leaved Daisy-bush		white	spring	to 1.5m	progagated in limited no.
<i>Calocephalus citreus</i>	lemon Beauty-heads	most	yellow	late spring - summer	0.5m	
saltbush species						
<i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>	Berry Saltbush	most/ saline	small red berries	berries in summer	1-3m wide	tolerate lime
<i>Atriplex stipitata</i>	Bitter Saltbush	most/ saline	na	na	to 1m	tolerate lime
<i>Atriplex suberecta</i>	Lagoon Saltbush	most/ saline			ground-cover	tolerate lime
<i>Einadia nutans</i>	Nodding Saltbush	most/ saline	red fruit	summer (fruit)	climber/ ground-cover	tolerate lime
<i>Rhagodia parabolica</i>	Fragrant Saltbush	most	red berries	late summer	1.5m	2-3m spread

Botanical Name	Common Name	Soil Type	Flower colour	Flowering time	Height	Other Notes
Native Grasses						
<i>Aristida behriana</i>	Brush Wiregrass	most	cream	Autumn -spring	0.3m	mass planting
<i>Austrostipa species</i>	Spear Grass	most	brown	spring - winter	0.3 to 1m	mass planting
<i>Rytidosperma species</i>	Wallaby Grass	most	cream	spring-summer	0.2-0.8m	mass planting
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass	most	brown	spring-summer	1- 1.5m	mass planting
Eremophilas						
<i>Eremophila spp</i>	Emubush	most	green, red, orange, pink or yellow	most of the year	0.3 to 6m	can be local to South Australia and WA, NSW, VIC and QLD

Please note: Although this is a long list of plants we stock in our Community Nursery, not all plant species may be available every time of the year.

Check out available plants on our theme table in the Community Nursery where plants are grouped together, suitable to attract butterflies.

Listed below is a fantastic resource to learn more about butterflies.

Attracting Butterflies to your Garden

- What to Grow and Conserve in the Adelaide Region

Hunt, Grund, Keane & Forrest, 2007

ISBN 9780646479248



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