OTHER NECTAR PLANTS

Aloysia gratissima – Bee Brush, White Brush – white flowers, excellent

Lantana camara, Lantana horrida – Yellow Lantana, Texas Lantana, Texas Gold – yellow and red flowers; very good butterfly plant

Phyla nodiflora – Frogfruit - formerly Phyla incisa; white, grows and spreads fast, excellent butterfly plant

Pavonia lasiopetala – Texas Swampmallow – pink flowers

Vitex agnus-castus – Vitex - medium tree; purple blue flowers; very good

Bouvardia ternifolia – Scarlet Bouvardia - red flowers

Cephalanthus occidentalis – Buttonbush – white flowers

CATERPILLAR FOOD PLANTS

Dill, Parsley, Fennel, Carrots, Celery for Black Swallowtails

Citrus (and other Rutaceae: torchwood, hoptree) for Giant Swallowtails

Gnaphalium wrightii – Cudweed for American Ladies

Cirsium texanum – Texas Thistle for Painted Ladies

Senna sp. (Sennas) for many Sulphurs

Croton pottsii – Croton for Goatweed Leafwings

Lepidium montanum – Western Peppergrass for Checkered and Cabbage Whites

Thamnosma texana – Rue of the Mountains/Dutchman’s Breeches for Black Swallowtails.

Aristolochia macrophylla – Pipevine for Pipevine Swallowtails (there are many species of Pipevine, but this is our local native species).

Helianthus annuus – Sunflower, Helianthus maximiliani – Maximilian Sunflower, and Helianthus petiolaris – Plains or Prairie Sunflower - for Bordered Patches and other butterflies.

Passiflora incarnate, P. lutea, and P. tenuiloba – Passion Vine for Gulf and Variegated Fritillaries (there are many species of Passion Vine, but these are some Texas species).

Asclepias sp. – Milkweed for Monarch Butterflies

Leucophyllum frutescens – Cenizo, Purple Sage - for Theona Checkerspots

Medicago sativa – Alfalfa (also Trifolium - Clover) - purple flowers; for many Sulphurs and Blues

Sphaeralcea angustifolia - Globemallow - for Common/White Checkered-Skippers

Butterfly Plants of West Texas

Suggestions for Midland and Ector Counties for 2014

Complied for the Permian Basin Master Gardeners

Steven Schafersman, Ph.D.
Texas Master Gardener
BUTTERFLY NECTAR PLANTS

MISTFLOWERS

_Conoclinium greggii_ (formerly _Eupatorium greggii_) – Gregg’s Mistflower - Native, flowers blue, the best butterfly nectar plant you can obtain. (Do not buy _Conoclinium coelestinum_ – Blue Mistflower; excellent butterfly plant but for E and SE TX, not West Texas.)

_Ageratina havanense_ (formerly _Eupatorium havanense_) – White Mistflower, Havana Snakeroot –OR– _Ageratina wrightii_ (formerly _Eupatorium wrightii_) – White Mistflower, Wright’s Snakeroot - Buy either; both are native and excellent; flowers white; flowers bloom Oct and Nov; great butterfly plant.

SAGES

_Salvia leucantha_ – Mexican Bush Sage - This is a great butterfly plant for our area.

_Salvia darcyi_ – Red Mountain Sage, Mexican Sage - Do not buy _Salvia greggii_, Gregg’s Sage, not as good as darcyi.

BUTTERFLY BUSH

_Buddleia davidii_ – Butterfly Bush - Many varieties are available: Pink Delight, Nanho Blue, Honeycomb, Black Knight, Nanho Purple, White Profusion, and others. One of the best butterfly plants that can be grown.

MILKWEEDS

(Plant these for the Monarchs!)

_Ascleria tuberosa_ – Butterfly Weed, Milkweed (orange, yellow, red; most readily available)

_Ascleria syriaca_ – Common Milkweed (pink, white; perhaps the best host plant for Monarchs)

_Ascleria incarnata_ – Swamp Milkweed, Rose Milkweed (pink, coral)

_Ascleria latifolia_ – Broadleaf Milkweed (white)

_Ascleria brachystephana_ – Bract Milkweed, Short-crowned Milkweed (pinkish purple; Native to TX, NM, AZ.)

_Ascleria asperula_ – Antelope Horn (white; huge seed producer; excellent for Monarchs)

_Ascleria speciosa_ – Showy Milkweed Milkweed seeds are available from Native American Seed at www.seedsource.com

DAISIES

_Senecio flaccidus_ – Threadleaf Groundsel (Okay to use _Senecio flaccidus var. douglasii_, formerly _Senecio douglasii_.)

_Verbesina enceliodes_ – Cowpen Daisy

_Berlandiera lyrata_ – Chocolate Daisy

_Psilostrophe tagetina_ – Paperflower, Wooly Paperflower

_Psilostrophe tagetina var. cerifera_ – Plains Paper Flower (formerly _Psilostrophe villosa_)

_Rudbeckia hirta_ – Black-eyed Susan

_Amblyolepis setigera_ – Huisache Daisy, Butterfly Daisy

_Tagetes lemmonii_ – Copper Canyon Daisy

_Bracteantha bracteata_ – Paper Daisy, Strawflower

_Coreopsis tinctoria_ – Plains Coreopsis