

# Favorite Families of Plants Used by Western Cascade Butterflies

*compiled by Tanya Harvey*

## CATERPILLAR HOST PLANTS (\*Good nectar plants as well)

\***Apiaceae or Umbelliferae (Carrot Family):** *Angelica, Cow Parsnip, Lomatium, Rangers Buttons, etc.*

✧ Anise Swallowtail

\***Asteraceae (Sunflower Family):** *Cascade and other Asters, Thistles, Pearly Everlasting, Pussytoes, etc.*

✧ Hoffmann's Checkerspot, Northern Checkerspot, Field Crescent, Mylitta Crescent, Painted Lady

**Betulaceae (Birch Family):** *Alders, Bog Birch*

✧ Green Comma, Pale Swallowtail, Mourning Cloak

\***Brassicaceae (Mustard Family):** *Rockcresses, Bittercresses, Wallflowers, Wintercresses*

✧ Western White, Margined (Mustard) White, Sara Orangetip

\***Crassulaceae (Stonecrop Family):** *Broadleaf, Creamy, Spreading and other Stonecrops (or Sedums)*

✧ Moss' Elfin

**Cupressaceae (Cypress Family):** *Incense-Cedar, Western Red-Cedar, Alaska Yellow-Cedar (?)*

✧ Juniper Hairstreak

\***Ericaceae (Heath Family):** *Huckleberries, White Rhododendron, Manzanitas, Madrone*

✧ Mariposa Copper, Brown Elfin, Hoary Comma, Green Comma, Spring Azure

\***Fabaceae (Pea Family):** *Lupines, Clovers, Deervetches, Peas, Vetches*

✧ Orange Sulphur, Greenish Blue, Silvery Blue, Boisduval's Blue, Northern Blue, Western Tailed-Blue, Eastern Tailed-Blue, Bramble Hairstreak, Gray Hairstreak, Persius Duskywing, Silver-spotted Skipper

**Fagaceae (Oak Family):** *Chinquapin, Oregon White Oak and other Oaks*

✧ California Sister, Propertius Duskywing, Golden Hairstreak

**Fumariaceae (Bleeding Heart Family):** *Western Bleeding Heart*

✧ Clodius Parnassian

\***Grossulariaceae (Currant or Gooseberry Family):** *Currants and Gooseberries*

✧ Hoary Comma, Gray (Oreas) Comma, Tailed Copper

\***Malvaceae (Mallow Family):** *Checkermallows*

✧ Common Checkered-Skipper, West Coast Lady, Painted Lady

**Pinaceae (Pine Family):** *Ponderosa, White and Lodgepole Pines, Douglas-fir, Hemlocks (?), True Firs (?)*

✿ Pine White, Western Pine Elfin

**Poaceae (Grass Family):** *Grasses*

✿ Great Arctic, all Wood Nymphs, Common Ringlet, Arctic Skipper, Juba Skipper, Common Branded Skipper, Sachem, Woodland Skipper, Common Roadside-Skipper

**\*Polygonaceae (Buckwheat Family):** *Arrowleaf, Sulphur and Barestem Buckwheat; Knotweeds, Docks*

✿ Edith's Copper, Purplish Copper, Lilac-bordered Copper, Blue Copper, Bramble Hairstreak, Gray Hairstreak, Square-spotted Blue, Pacific Dotted Blue, Acmon Blue

**\*Rhamnaceae (Buckthorn Family):** *Ceanothus, Cascara*

✿ Hedgerow Hairstreak, California Tortoiseshell, Pale Swallowtail, Brown Elfin

**\*Rosaceae (Rose Family):** *Bitter Cherry, Oceanspray, Serviceberry, Hardhack, Indian Plum, Roses, Blackberries, Strawberries, Cinquefoils, etc.*

✿ Two-banded Checkered-Skipper, Spring Azure, Brown Elfin, Gray Hairstreak, Pale Swallowtail, Lorquin's Admiral

**Salicaceae (Willow Family):** *Willows, Black Cottonwood, Quaking Aspen*

✿ Green Comma, Western Tiger Swallowtail, Mourning Cloak, Sylvan Hairstreak, Lorquin's Admiral, Dreamy Duskywing, Satyr Comma

**\*Scrophulariaceae (Figwort Family):** *Penstemons, Paintbrush, Blue-Eyed Mary, Snow Queen, Monkeyflower*

✿ Edith's Checkerspot, Variable Checkerspot, Common Buckeye

**Urticaceae (Nettle Family):** *Stinging Nettle*

✿ Satyr Comma, Milbert's Tortoiseshell, Red Admiral, West Coast Lady

**Violaceae (Violet Family):** *Early Blue, Baker's, Evergreen and Stream Violets*

✿ Western Meadow (Pacific) Fritillary; all greater fritillaries: Great Spangled, Hydaspes, Atlantis & Callippe

## BUTTERFLY NECTAR PLANTS ONLY

**\*Apocynaceae (Dogbane Family):** *Spreading Dogbane*

**\*Lamiaceae (Mint Family):** *Horsemint, Coyote Mint, Hedgenettles*

**\*Valerianaceae (Valerian Family):** *Sitka Valerian, Rosy Plectritis*