How to Attract Hummingbirds & Butterflies

Dennis, John V.; Arbuckle, Nancy; Tekulsky, Mathew; Ortho Books

3.25 avg rating • 4 ratings by Goodreads

Softcover
Publisher: Ortho Books, 1991

- **Synopsis**

Hummingbirds and butterflies add interest, beauty, and enjoyment to a garden. This book describes the characteristics, behavior, and needs of these creatures. Plant-selection lists and necessary design elements are included, as are descriptions of the most common hummingbird and butterfly species.

"synopsis" may belong to another edition of this title.
Attracting hummingbirds 101! See more hummingbirds in your backyard and garden this summer. Tips include everything from nectar feeders to native plants. Hummingbirds are naturally attracted to the color red, which is the reason why most nectar feeders you see have a red base or top. Make sure that yours does too. At the very least, make sure it has a bright color like yellow.
Hummingbirds and butterflies add beauty and biodiversity to the landscape. Here's how to attract them to your yard. Gerchman gives the example of how hummingbirds eat aphids: “Aphids are often seen as immediate pests in gardens. So you can enjoy beautiful flowers, and attract hummingbirds which help protect the plants.” An additional note on garden pest control -- at a Vegetable Entomologist Workshop in Dallas, pest control experts cautioned to “avoid broad-spectrum insecticides to conserve natural enemies” like hummingbirds. Flowers and tips to attract hummingbirds to your garden. Gerchman explains that hummingbirds are attracted to tubular-shaped flowers. One very important thing to remember about attracting hummingbirds, butterflies or anything that is going to be tasting the plants in your garden is to avoid using pesticides. Here are more tips for what to plant to attract butterflies and hummingbirds and how to keep them happy, healthy and returning to your yard.

To get hummingbirds the natural way, plant a garden specifically geared toward what attracts them. That means a garden full of azaleas, bee balm, butterfly bushes, columbine, foxglove, hostas and morning glories (all of these are full of delicious nectar and are bright and colorful). Choose varieties that have very little smell, but have a high visibility and nectar production. You can use trees, vines, shrubs, and flowers, both perennials and annuals. These suggestions are just the beginning of the list. Hummingbird and butterfly feeders are a great way to supplement natural nectar, especially early and late in the growing season. They also often feed a wide variety of other beneficial insects and often attract many songbirds as well. Butterfly, Bee, and Bat Boxes. Butterfly, bee, and bat boxes are a great way to provide purposeful protective cover.

Butterfly Puddler. Butterflies have different water needs than hummingbirds. They prefer to drink from very shallow puddles, preferably with sand or soil underneath. Using colored sand in their favorite color may draw them in easier. You can make one of these puddlers with a simple pie tin! Bury the pie tin in your garden, and add colored sand to the bottom.
Hummingbird and butterfly feeders are a great way to supplement natural nectar, especially early and late in the growing season. They also often feed a wide variety of other beneficial insects and often attract many songbirds as well. Butterfly, Bee, and Bat Boxes. Butterfly, bee, and bat boxes are a great way to provide purposeful protective cover. Be sure to follow the suggested directions about where to hang to both attract and help keep your visitors safe. Consider Backyard Beekeeping. To attract Western hummingbirds, such as the rufous hummingbird or Anna's hummingbird, Hilton suggests using local flowering plants, especially natives, that have a strong nectar load. He encourages West Coast gardeners to be careful about what they plant because plants not native to the region could become invasive in some of the ideal growing conditions there. They are very opportunistic feeders. As long as a flower has nectar, it doesn't have to be tubular or red. He pointed out Japanese azaleas as an example of plants with red tubular flowers that don't have nectar and thus are not a source of food or interest to hummingbirds. One very important thing to remember about attracting hummingbirds, butterflies or anything that is going to be tasting the plants in your garden is to avoid using pesticides. Here are more tips for what to plant to attract butterflies and hummingbirds and how to keep them happy, healthy and returning to your yard.

Attracting Butterflies. Once you have a hospitable environment for butterflies, keep them coming back by providing their favorite plants. Butterflies are partial to flowers with flat umbels, where they can stop and warm their wings as well as grab a snack on the fly. Bright colors will catch their eye in flight, so consider planting your butterfly plants in swaths large enough for them to spot. A butterfly plant here and there is not going to do the trick.
How to Attract Hummingbirds. Hummingbird Flowers and Plants. Hummingbirds and butterflies both love flowers with nectar, and finding the right plants will draw them to your garden. Not only are these winged creatures pretty and fun to watch, but they're essential pollinators, too, helping to keep your plants happy! Hummingbirds are attracted to anything that is red, yellow, or orange. Butterfly Puddler. Butterflies have different water needs than hummingbirds. They prefer to drink from very shallow puddles, preferably with sand or soil underneath. Using colored sand in their favorite color may draw them in easier. You can make one of these puddlers with a simple pie tin! Bury the pie tin in your garden, and add colored sand to the bottom. One very important thing to remember about attracting hummingbirds, butterflies or anything that is going to be tasting the plants in your garden is to avoid using pesticides. Here are more tips for what to plant to attract butterflies and hummingbirds and how to keep them happy, healthy and returning to your yard. 01 of 06. Attracting Butterflies. Once you have a hospitable environment for butterflies, keep them coming back by providing their favorite plants. Butterflies are partial to flowers with flat umbels, where they can stop and warm their wings as well as grab a snack on the fly. Bright colors will catch their eye in flight, so consider planting your butterfly plants in swaths large enough for them to spot. A butterfly plant here and there is not going to do the trick. Attracting hummingbirds 101! See more hummingbirds in your backyard and garden this summer. Tips include everything from nectar feeders to native plants. How do you attract hummingbirds? In fact, I share 38 tips, tricks, and techniques that will make your backyard an attractive habitat for hummingbirds. As you can probably guess, much of the advice centers around building your yard with the three core needs of hummingbirds. They may be natural pest control, but they kill bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects. Also, nearly all feeder bases can be put in the top rack of the dishwasher for cleaning. Avoid feeders with a lot of nooks and crannies.