5 POP TREES & THE POLLINATORS THEY ATTRACT

Looking to support a range of pollinators in your orchard, backyard garden, or ecosystem? Check out this guide to 5 common orchard trees and the species they attract regionally, based on the work of Doug Tallamy’s ‘Bringing Nature Home.’

NOTE: The data below represents only butterflies and moths; some plants listed are much better at attracting bees and other pollinators!

APPLE (Malus spp.)
- 287 species of butterflies and moths use apple as a caterpillar host plant
- Zone 7A/7B Bloom Time: April - June

Left to right: Tulip Tree Silk Moth (Callosamia angulifera), Apple Sphinx (Sphinx gordius), Interrupted Dagger Moth (Acronicta interrupta)

CHERRY, PEACH, PLUM (Prunus spp.)
- 435 species of butterflies and moths use Prunus spp. as a caterpillar host plant
- Zone 7A/7B Bloom Time: April - May

Left to right: Banded Purple, Red-spotted Admiral (Limenitis arthemis), Purple Crested Slug (Adoneta spinuloides), Laurel Sphinx (Sphinx kalmia)

JUNEBERRY (Amelanchier spp.)
- 113 species of butterflies and moths use juneberry as a caterpillar host plant
- Zone 7A/7B Bloom Time: April

Left to right: White Admiral (Limenitis arthemis), Small-Eyed Sphinx Moth (Paonias myops), Viceroy Butterfly (Limenitis archippus)

PERSIMMON (Diospyros spp.)
- 48 species of butterflies and moths use persimmon as a caterpillar host plant
- Zone 7A/7B Bloom Time: June

Left to right: Hebrew Moth (Polygrammate hebraeicum), Royal Walnut Moth (Citheronia regalis), Io Moth (Automeris io)

MULBERRY (Morus spp.)
- 9 species of butterflies and moths use mulberry as a caterpillar host plant
- Zone 7A/7B Bloom Time: May-June

Left to right: Rosy Maple Moth (Dryocampa rubicunda), Indian Meal Moth (Plodia interpunctella), Pearly Underwing (Peridroma saucia)