

What is a host plant and why are they important?

Most butterfly and moth young eat only one or just a few species of plants. The plant species where the females lay their eggs and that the larvae eat are called host plants. By planting host plants in our gardens, we can turn our yards in to havens for pollinating butterflies and moths.

Parish's Goldeneye
(*Bahiopsis parishii*)



Jesse Rorabaugh

California Evening Primrose
(*Oenothera avita*)



Leah Gardner

California Patch larva



Mike Plagens

White-lined Sphinx larva



Zoltán Stekkelpak

Adult California Patch



Robb Hannawacker

Adult White-lined Sphinx Moth



Adam Jackson

POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP

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Santa Barbara Milk Vetch
(*Astragalus trichopodus*)



Marine Blue Larva



Adult Marine Blue



Cottonwoods
(*Populus spp.*)



Western Tiger Swallowtail Larva



Adult Western Tiger Swallowtail



Mallow family
(*Malvaceae spp.*)



West Coast Lady Larva



Adult West Coast Lady

