

20 most valuable woody and perennial native plant genera in terms of supporting biodiversity in the mid-Atlantic region

Woody Plants			Perennials		
Plant Genus	Common Name	# of Lepidoptera species supported	Plant Genus	Common Name	# of Lepidoptera species supported
<i>Quercus</i>	oak	534	<i>Solidago</i>	goldenrod	115
<i>Prunus</i>	black cherry	456	<i>Aster</i>	asters	112
<i>Salix</i>	willow	455	<i>Helianthus</i>	sunflower	73
<i>Betula</i>	birch	413	<i>Eupatorium</i>	joe pye, boneset	42
<i>Populus</i>	poplar	368	<i>Ipomoea</i>	morning glory	39
<i>Malus</i>	crabapple	311	<i>Carex</i>	sedges	36
<i>Vaccinium</i>	blueberry	288	<i>Lonicera</i>	honeysuckle	36
<i>Acer</i>	maple	285	<i>Lupinus</i>	lupine	33
<i>Ulmus</i>	elm	213	<i>Viola</i>	violets	29
<i>Pinus</i>	pine	203	<i>Geranium</i>	geraniums	23
<i>Carya</i>	hickory	200	<i>Rudbeckia</i>	black-eyed susan	17
<i>Crataegus</i>	hawthorn	159	<i>Iris</i>	iris	17
<i>Picea</i>	spruce	156	<i>Oenothera</i>	evening primrose	16
<i>Alnus</i>	alder	156	<i>Asclepias</i>	milkweed	12
<i>Tilia</i>	basswood	150	<i>Verbena</i>	verbena	11
<i>Fraxinus</i>	ash	150	<i>Penstemon</i>	beardtongue	8
<i>Rosa</i>	rose	139	<i>Phlox</i>	phlox	8
<i>Corylus</i>	filbert	131	<i>Monarda</i>	bee balm	7
<i>Juglans</i>	walnut	130	<i>Veronica</i>	veronica	6
<i>Fagus</i>	beech	126	<i>Schizachyrium</i>	little bluestem	6
<i>Castanea</i>	chestnut	125	<i>Lobelia</i>	cardinal flower	4

For complete list see <http://copland.udel.edu/~dtallamy/host/index.html>

Recommended reading:

- Tallamy, D. 2007. *Bringing Nature home*. Timber press.
 Louv, R. 2005. *Last Child in the Woods*. Algonquin Books.

Non Native plants, even if generous supporters of biodiversity in their home range, fail as such in N. America, even after decades of presence

Plant	Herbivores in original range	Herbivores Native to N. America	Years since introduction
Phragmites australis	170	5	300+
Eucalyptus stellulata	48	1	100
Opuntia ficus-indica	16	0	250
Clematis vitalba	40	1	100
Melaleuca quinquenervia	409	8	120

Data Courtesy of Doug Tallamy, 10/06/09