

Best Plant Genera for Supporting Moths and Butterflies in NY

Woody plants

Genus	# moth spp
<i>Quercus</i> Oaks	526
<i>Prunus</i> Cherries	290
<i>Betula</i> Birches	225
<i>Salix</i> willows	221
<i>Carya</i> hickories	220
<i>Acer</i> maples	201
<i>Populus</i> cottonwood	193
<i>Vaccinium</i> blueberries	171
<i>Ulmus</i> elms	157
<i>Juglans</i> walnut	130
<i>Tilia</i> basswood	122
<i>Fraxinus</i> ash	115
<i>Alnus</i> alder	115
<i>Fagus</i> beech	111
<i>Crataegus</i> hawthorn	111

Herbaceous plants

Genus	# moth spp
<i>Solidago</i> Goldenrods	89
Asters	75
<i>Helianthus</i> sunflowers	74
<i>Ambrosia</i> ragweed	55
<i>Solanum</i> horsenettle	61
<i>Fragaria</i> strawberry	53
<i>Plantago</i> plantain	44
<i>Polygonum</i> smartweed	44
<i>Lactuca</i> wild lettuce	44
<i>Rumex</i> dock	43
<i>Eupatorium</i> Joe Pye	39
<i>Ipomoea</i> Morning glory	39
<i>Amaranthus</i> pigweed	36
<i>Poa</i> native grasses	33
<i>Amorpha</i> false indigo	32

Best plant genera for specialist native bees in the Midwest

<i>Helianthus</i>	Sunflowers	13 bee species
Asters		12 bee species
<i>Solidago</i>	Goldenrods	11 bee species
<i>Salix</i>	Willows	9 bee species
<i>Dalea</i>	Prairie clover	6 bee species
<i>Amorpha</i>	False indigo	4 bee species
<i>Rudbeckia</i>	Black-eyed Susan	3 bee species
<i>Lysimachia</i>	Fringed loosestrife	2 bee species

If you plant these genera, you have supported 60 species of specialist bees and many generalist bees as well.