

Sussex Butterfly Larval Food Plants



Species	Primary	Secondary
Adonis Blue	Horseshoe Vetch	
Black Hairstreak	Blackthorn	
Brimstone	Purging Buckthorn (on downland) and Alder Buckthorn (elsewhere)	
Brown Argus	Common Rock-rose	Any Wild Geranium such as Cut-leaved Cranesbill and Dovesfoot
Brown Hairstreak	Blackthorn	Any Prunus species including Bullace (Damson), Wild Plum and a variety of garden plum trees
Chalk Hill Blue	Horseshoe Vetch	
Clouded Yellow	Lucerne and clovers	Birdsfoot Trefoil and Horseshoe Vetch
Comma	Common Nettle	Hop
Common Blue	Birdsfoot Trefoil	Other trefoils including Lesser Trefoil and Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil
Dark Green Fritillary	Hairy Violet and Common Dog-violet	
Dingy Skipper	Horseshoe Vetch (on downland) and Birdsfoot Trefoil (elsewhere)	
Duke of Burgundy	Cowslip (on downland) and Primrose (elsewhere)	Any Primula species may be used
Essex Skipper	Cock's-foot	Creeping Soft-grass, Tor-grass and Timothy
Gatekeeper	Various species of fescue, bent and meadow-grass	
Grayling	Sheep's Fescue, Red fescue and Hair-grasses	
Green Hairstreak	Common Rock-rose, Dogwood, Birdsfoot Trefoil and Gorse - all these plant species on downland	Bramble and Buckthorn (in woods) and Cross-leaved Heath (on heathland)
Green-veined White	Garlic Mustard and Cuckooflower	Various Crucifers and Nasturtium
Grizzled Skipper	Wild Strawberry, Agrimony, Creeping Cinquefoil and Salad Burnet	

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Species	Primary	Secondary
Holly Blue	Holly, Ivy and Dogwood	Various shrubs such as Portuguese Laurel and Spindle
Large Skipper	Cock's-foot	Other coarse grass species
Large Tortoiseshell	English Elm and Wych Elm	
Large White	Any member of the cabbage family and crucifers	Garlic Mustard and Wild Mignonette
Marbled White	Red Fescue and a variety of meadow grasses	
Meadow Brown	A variety of meadow grasses	
Orange-tip	Cuckooflower and Garlic Mustard	Dame's Violet
Painted Lady	Thistles	Common Nettle, Viper's Bugloss, Globe Artichoke and various Mallow species
Peacock	Common Nettle	Hop
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Common Dog-violet	
Purple Emperor	Goat Willow	Grey Willow and Willow hybrids
Purple Hairstreak	Common Oak	
Red Admiral	Common Nettle	Small Nettle, Hop and Pellitory-of-the-wall
Ringlet	Cock's-foot, False Brome, Tufted Hair-grass, Common Couch and Smooth Meadow-grass	
Silver-spotted Skipper	Sheep's-fescue	
Silver-studded Blue	Bell Heather	
Silver-washed Fritillary	Common Dog-violet	
Small Blue	Kidney Vetch	
Small Copper	Common Sorrel and occasionally Sheep's Sorrel	Broad-leaved Dock
Small Heath	A variety of species of fescues (especially Sheep's fescue), meadow-grass and bent.	
Small Skipper	Yorkshire-fog	Cock's-foot, Creeping Soft-grass, False Brome, Meadow Foxtail, Timothy

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Small Tortoiseshell	Common Nettle	
Small White	Any member of the cabbage family and crucifers	
Speckled Wood	Cock's-foot, Common Couch, False Brome, Yorkshire-fog	
Continental Swallowtail	Wild Carrot and Fennel	Carrot tops and Garden Fennel
White Admiral	Honeysuckle	
White-letter Hairstreak	English Elm	
Wood White	Bird's-foot Trefoil, Bitter Vetch, Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil, Meadow Vetchling, Tufted Vetch	