



Monarch Butterfly

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1 - white         | 5 - yellow      |
| 2 - orange        | 6 - light green |
| 3 - yellow orange | 7 - pink        |
| 4 - black         | 8 - light blue  |



## Monarch Butterfly Facts

- Scientific name: *Danaus plexippus*
- Status: Candidate species for listing
- Host plant: Native milkweed (regionally native *Asclepias* species)
- Where they live: Monarchs can be found seasonally throughout the United States, southern Canada and Central America. They can be seen at more northern sites in the summer and southern sites in the winter or year-round.
- Monarchs are famous for their long migrations – more than 3,000 miles! However, most individuals don't migrate long distances. Monarchs go through four or more generations in the summer, and only the last generation makes the long migration south. There are also many populations of monarchs in warm climates that do not migrate at all.
- Migrating monarchs overwinter in huge colonies, often in trees.
- While adult monarchs usually live 2 to 6 weeks, the migrating generation can live 8 to 9 months!
- You can help support monarchs by planting milkweed species native to your area. Remember, native milkweed species are best for the monarchs. Nonnative varieties, such as tropical milkweed, can spread disease or confuse monarchs due to the plant's different growing season.