

Monarch Waystations for North Texas



Carol Clark
Jan 2016

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What?

Why?

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- **A Monarch Waystation is a place that provides host plants , nectar plants, and shelter for Monarch butterflies**
- **Monarch Waystations that meet certain easy criteria can be registered with Monarch Watch at www.monarchwatch.org.**
- **There are over 25,000 registered Waystations, and Texas leads the way!**

All Monarch Waystations need three things

Nectar Plants for adults

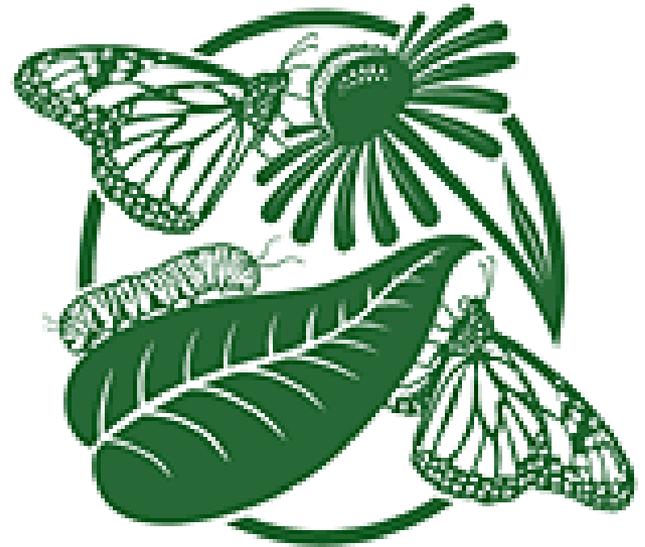
Milkweeds for caterpillars to eat

Shelter for adults

****Supplemental water is not really necessary
but is helpful**



MONARCH WAYSTATION



This site provides milkweeds, nectar sources, and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America.

Certified and registered by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation.

CREATE, CONSERVE, & PROTECT MONARCH HABITATS

WWW.MONARCHWATCH.ORG

Monarch Watch • University of Kansas • Entomology Program • 1200 Sunnyside Ave • Lawrence, KS 66044 USA



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www.monarchwatch.org

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MONARCH WAYSTATION



This site provides an overwinter, nectar source, and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America. Certified and registered by Monarch Waystation as an official Monarch Waystation.

CREATE, CONSERVE & PROTECT MONARCH HABITATS

www.MonarchWaystation.com



MONARCH WAYSTATION



MONARCH BUTTERFLIES ARE A NATIONAL SYMBOL OF AMERICA AND ARE PROTECTED BY FEDERAL LAW. IT IS ILLEGAL TO HARM OR HARASS MONARCH BUTTERFLIES OR TO DESTROY OR REMOVE THEIR NATURAL HABITAT. MONARCH BUTTERFLIES ARE A NATIONAL TREASURE AND WE ALL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THEM.



Using Other People's Space--and maybe money

suburban yards

schools

prisons

recreational camps

churches

military bases

museums

orchards

farms

patios

cemeteries

city parks

state parks

county parks

rest stops

utility right-of-ways

parking lots

businesses

colleges

roadsides

hotels







"HOME OF THE MONARCHS"

Waystation #7273

L. Bravo



Michael McDowell
Blog name: "planobluestem"

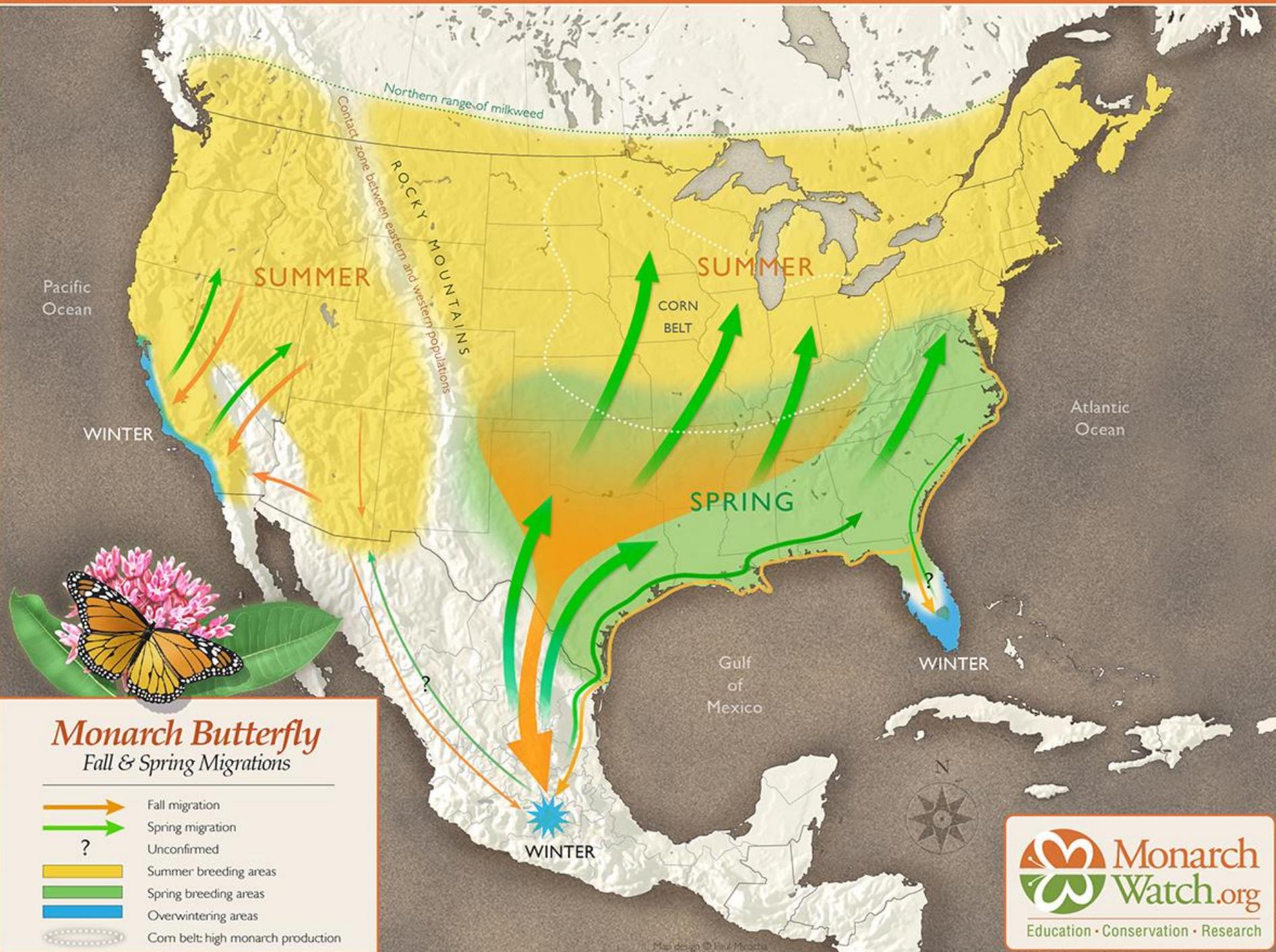




**What's Sooooo
Special About
*Texas??***



The entire population of Monarchs East of the Rockies depends on finding milkweeds when they migrate through Texas



Monarch Butterfly

Fall & Spring Migrations

-  Fall migration
-  Spring migration
-  Unconfirmed
-  Summer breeding areas
-  Spring breeding areas
-  Overwintering areas
-  Corn belt: high monarch production




Monarch Watch.org
Education • Conservation • Research

Map design © Paul Minchin



























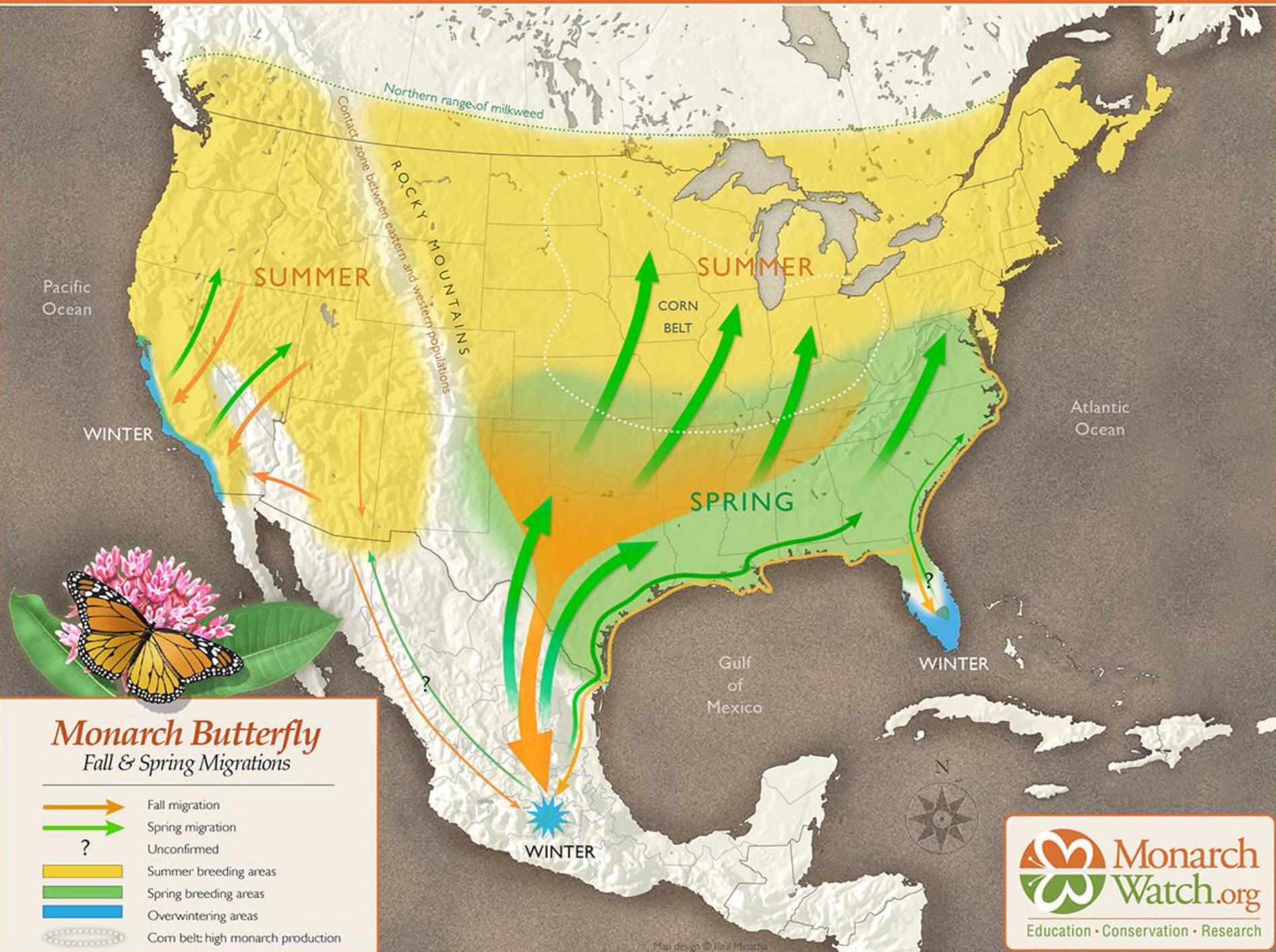












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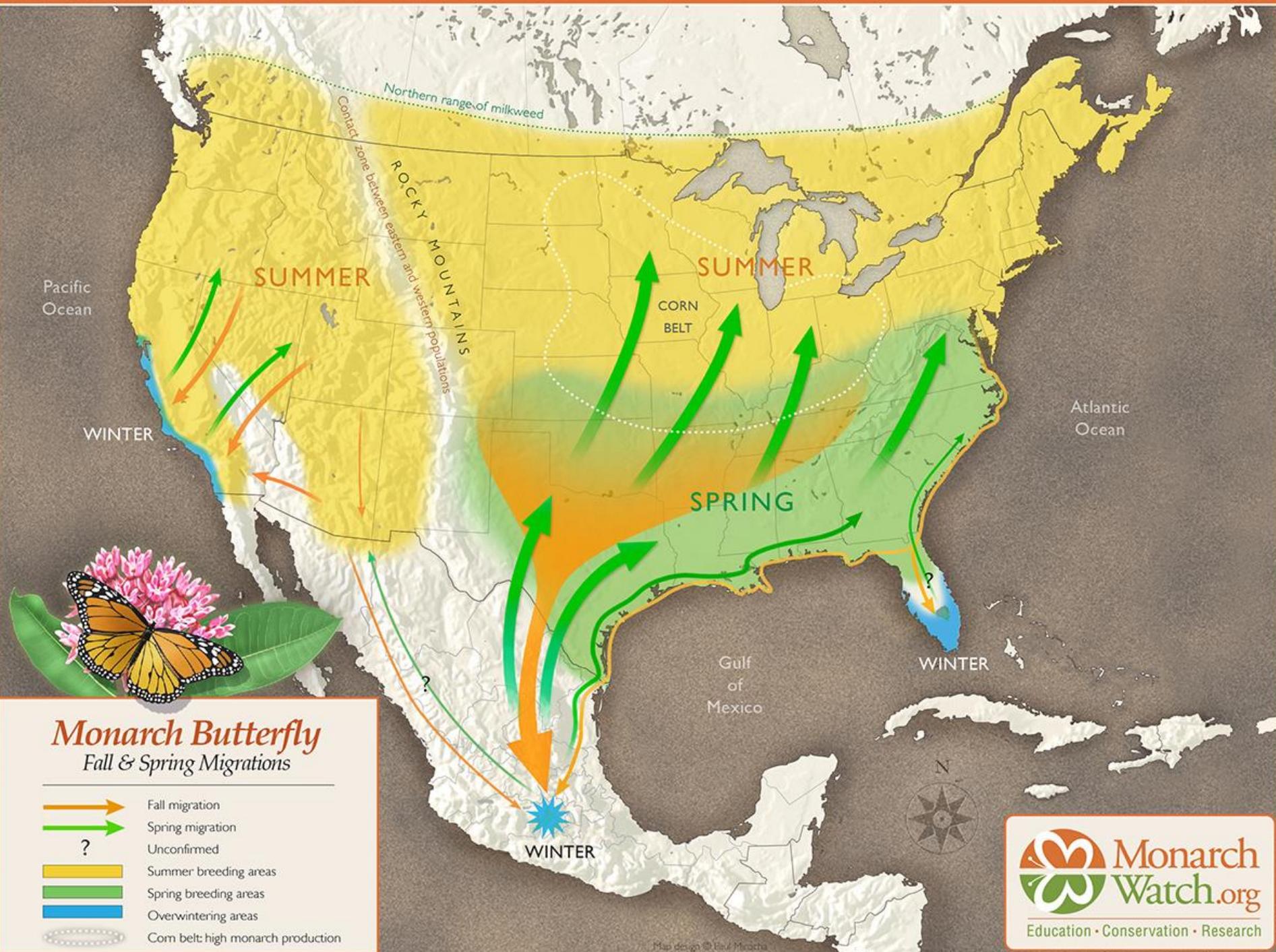




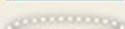








Monarch Butterfly Fall & Spring Migrations

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**Monarch
Watch.org**
Education • Conservation • Research

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Ancient problems

Storms

Unfavorable migration winds

Weather

Predators

Modern problems

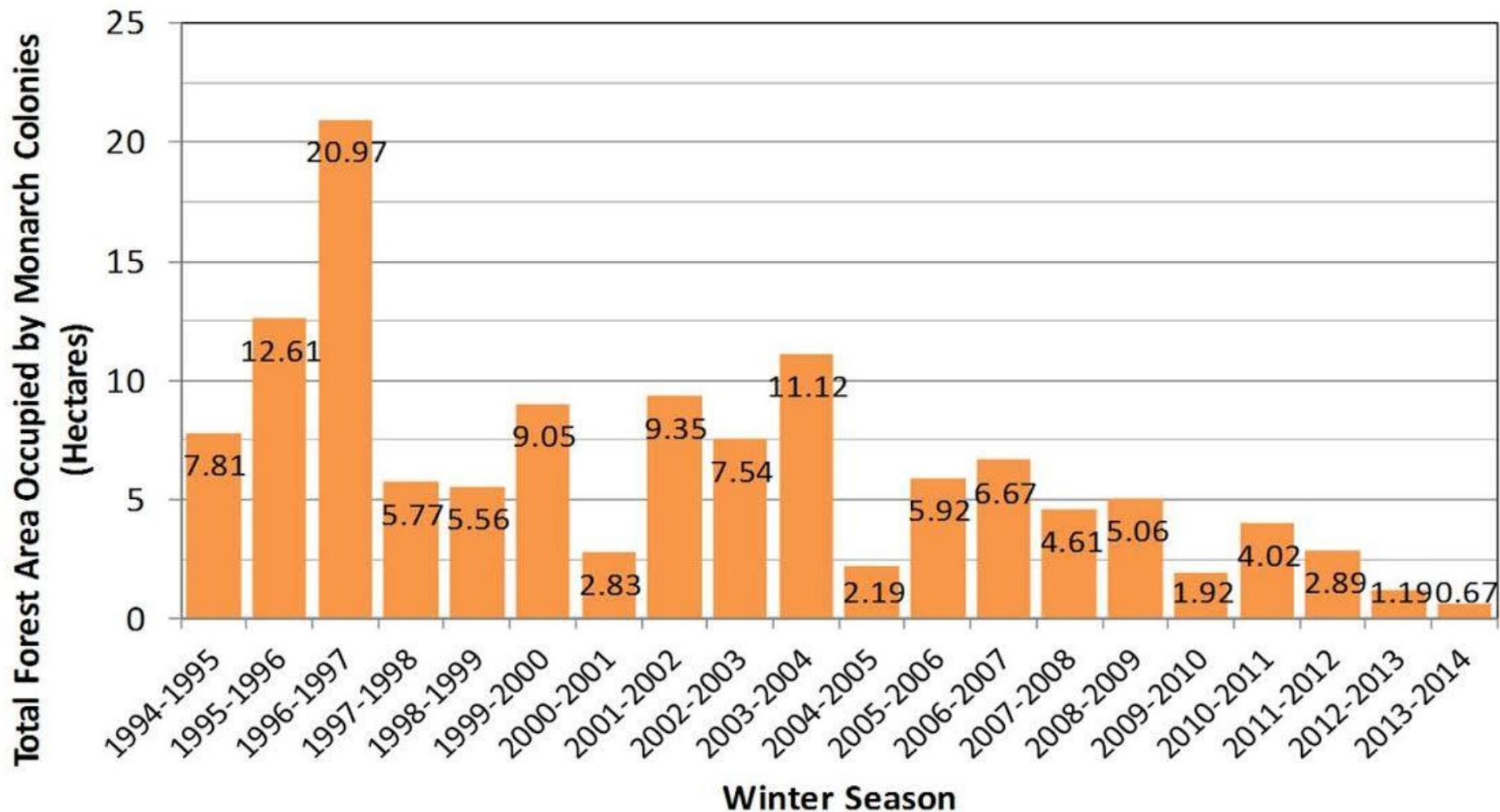
Illegal logging in Mexico

Loss of habitat in the US Midwest and elsewhere

Pesticide use

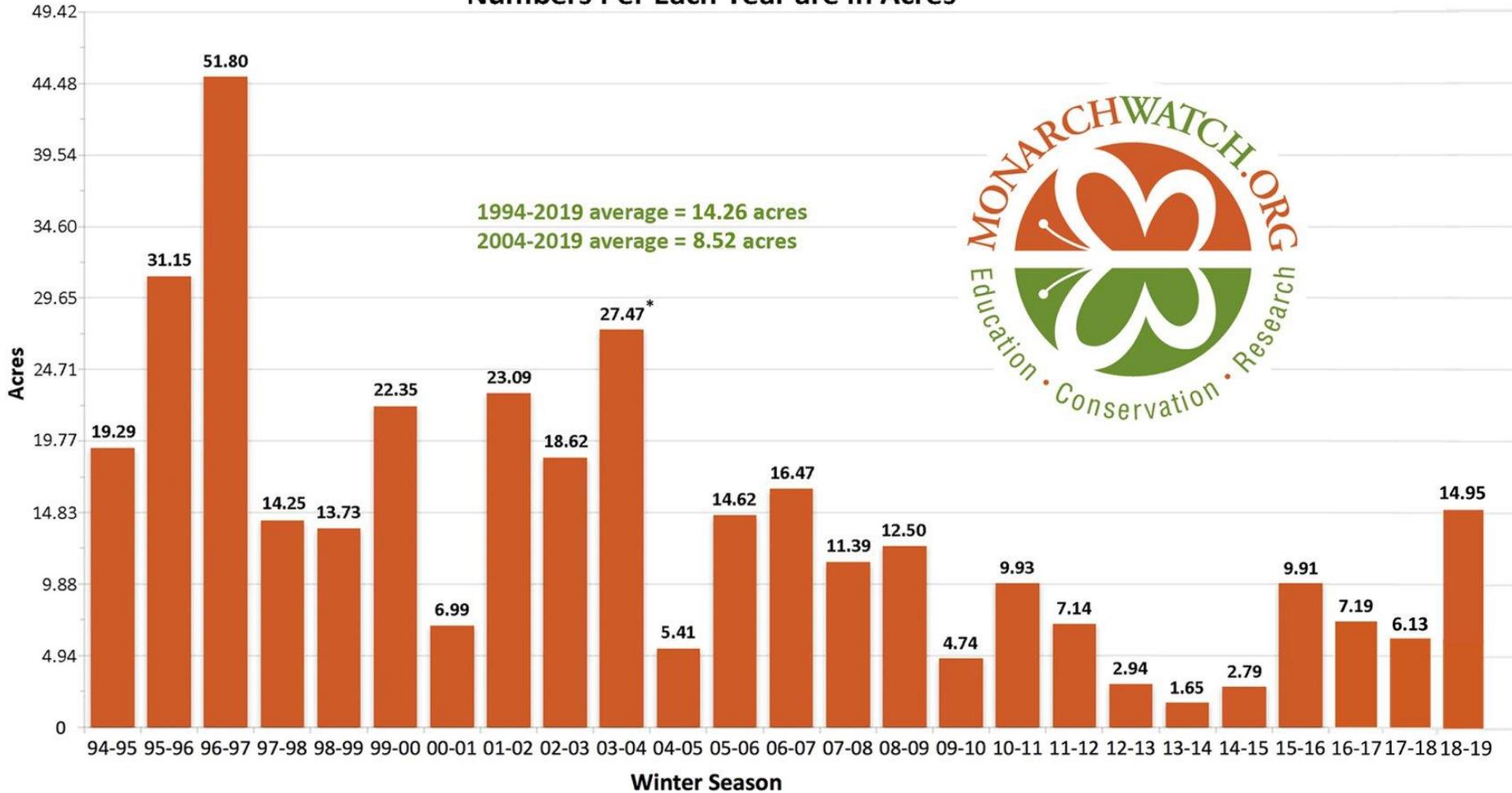
Changing Farming practices

Total Area Occupied by Monarch Colonies At Overwintering Sites in Mexico 1994/1995 - 2013/2014



Total Area Occupied by Monarch Colonies at Overwintering Sites in Mexico

Numbers Per Each Year are in Acres



Data for 1994-2003 collected by personnel of the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (MBBR) of the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) in Mexico. Data for 2003-2017 collected by World Wildlife Fund Mexico in coordination with the Directorate of the MBBR.

* Represents colony sizes measured in November of 2003 before the colonies consolidated. Measures obtained in January 2004 indicated the population was much smaller, possibly 8-9 hectares. CT

7 Real Steps to Help Monarchs:

Reduce or eliminate personal pesticide use

Refrain from mowing Milkweeds in the Spring

Plant “real” nectar plants for Spring migration

Plant native Milkweeds!

Plant “real” nectar plants for Fall migration

Tell others that Monarchs need milkweeds

Create and register your Monarch Waystation

Things to consider

Size: Lower limit for real effectiveness is 100 square feet (10' X 10', 4' X 25', etc.).

Total area may be split up among several sites at your location—yard, business, farm, sanctuary. No upper limit.

Location: Sun preferred, at least 6 hours per day. Monarchs prefer to drink nectar in the sun, and can't fly when temps drop below 55 degrees.

Think also about drainage, flooding, and soil type when planning. Some Milkweeds and nectar plants are going to want excellent drainage, and others don't care.

Then What?

Become a Citizen Scientist

Journey North—report Monarch sightings. Keep a calendar or submit individual sightings. This year they want you to keep going after the first one.

Monarch Larvae Monitoring Project (University of Minnesota)—count and report eggs, caterpillars, etc. throughout the breeding season

iNaturalist—report your adults, eggs, larvae, chrysalises, etc

Monarch Watch—order tags and tag wild or hand reared monarchs in the Fall.



TAG@KUI.EDU
MONARCH BUTTERFLY
1-888-TAGGING
WNT 568

Just for Monarchs?

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**...And the
Queens**



For Those Less Famous Butterflies



For the Unexpected Cycnia



For Those Other Critters





For the Drama!



Green Milkweed

Asclepias viridis

Green flowers with purplish club shaped hoods

Smooth oval leaves—somewhat shiny

Milky sap













Antelope Horns Milkweed

Asclepias asperula

Lance shaped leaves

Sprawling habit









Butterfly Weed

Asclepias tuberosa

- No milky sap; short, stiff fuzzy leaves, bright orange or yellow flowers











Zizotes Milkweed

Asclepias oenotheroides

Leaves variable

Flowers in loose clusters

*Hoods and horns held far above
corona*





Swamp Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata



Swamp Milkweed 'Ice Ballet'

Asclepias incarnata





Texas Milkweed *Asclepias texana*



Whorled Milkweed

Asclepias verticillata

Leaves mostly in whorls of three to five

White flowers







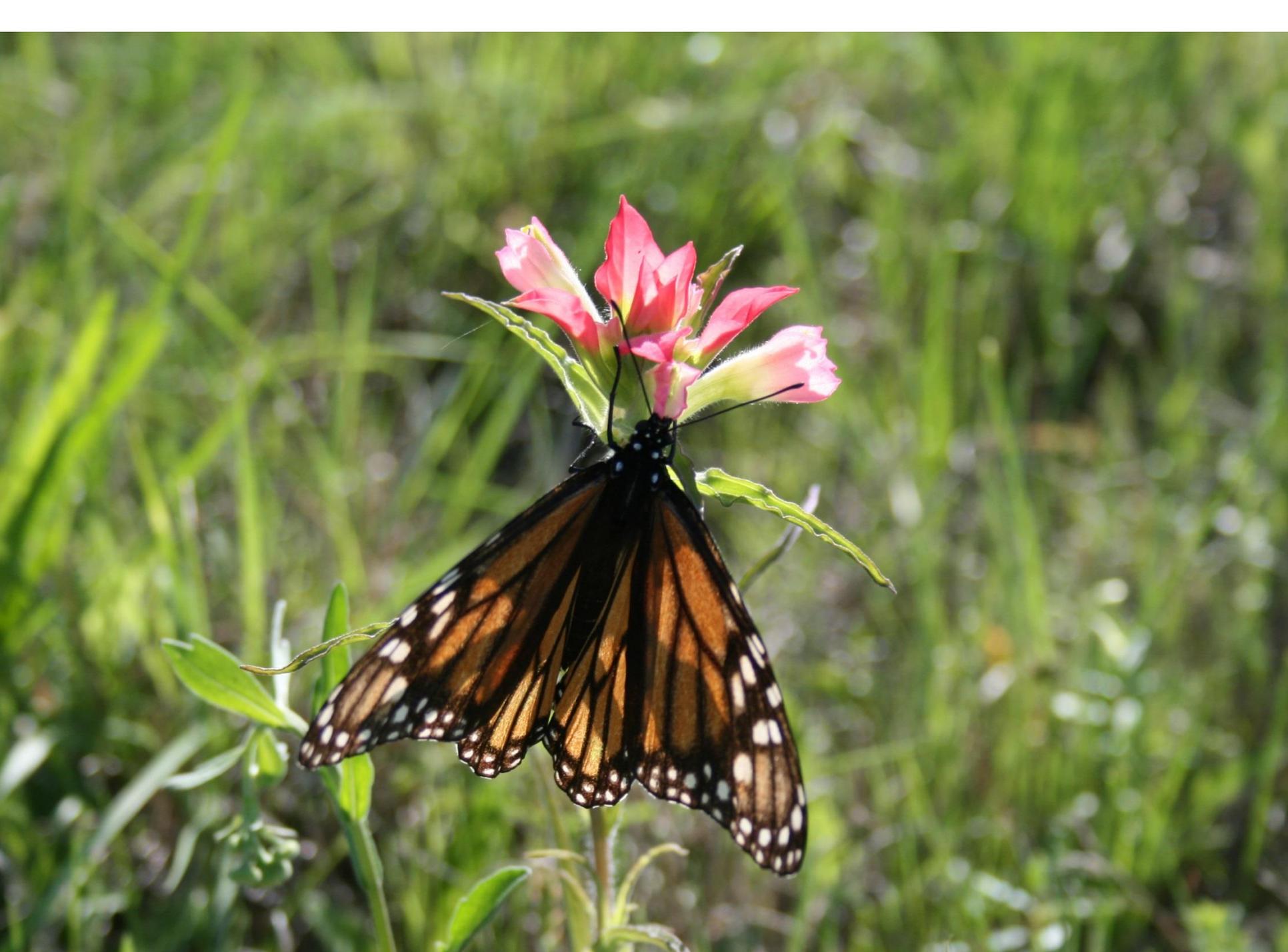














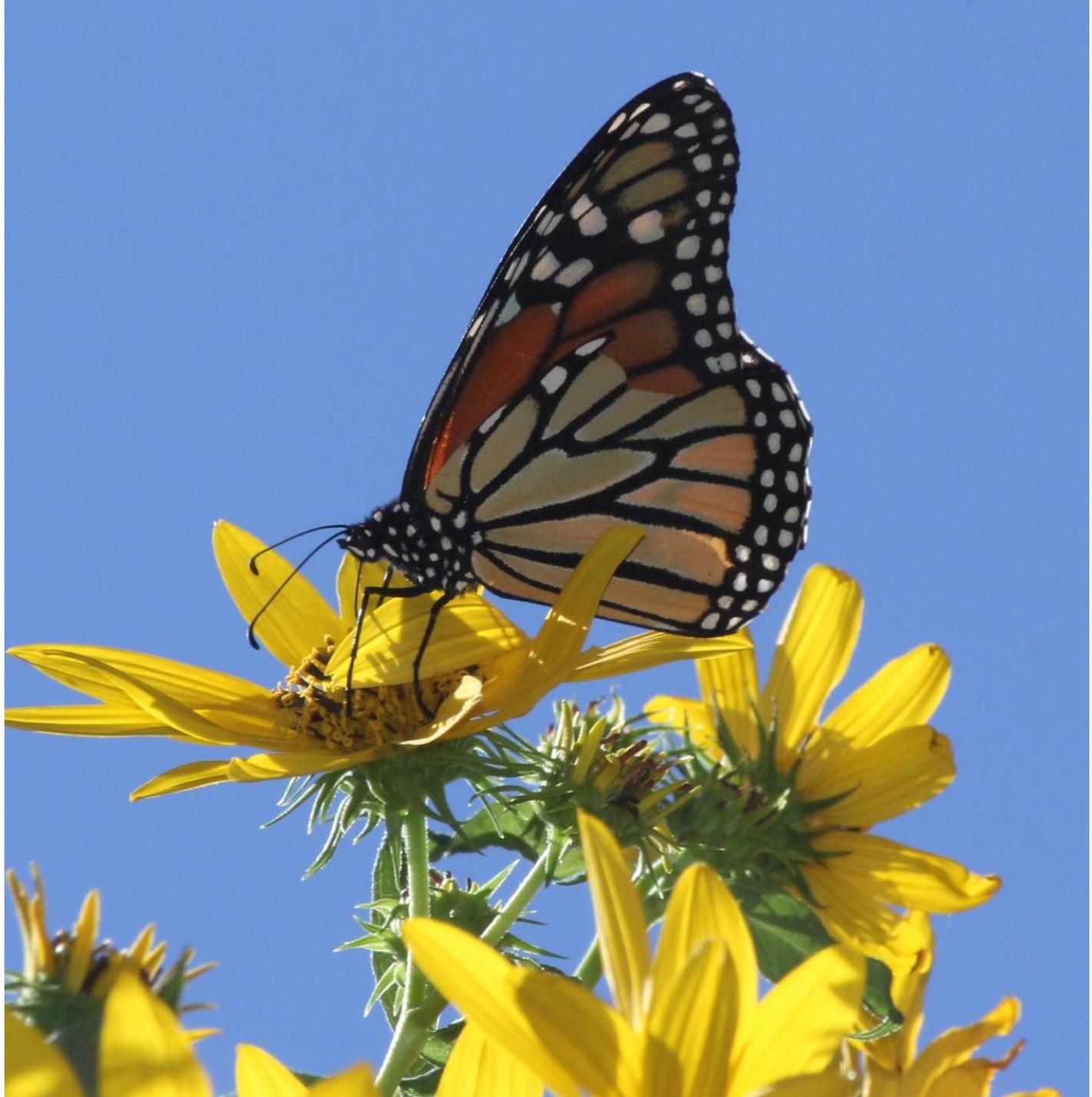




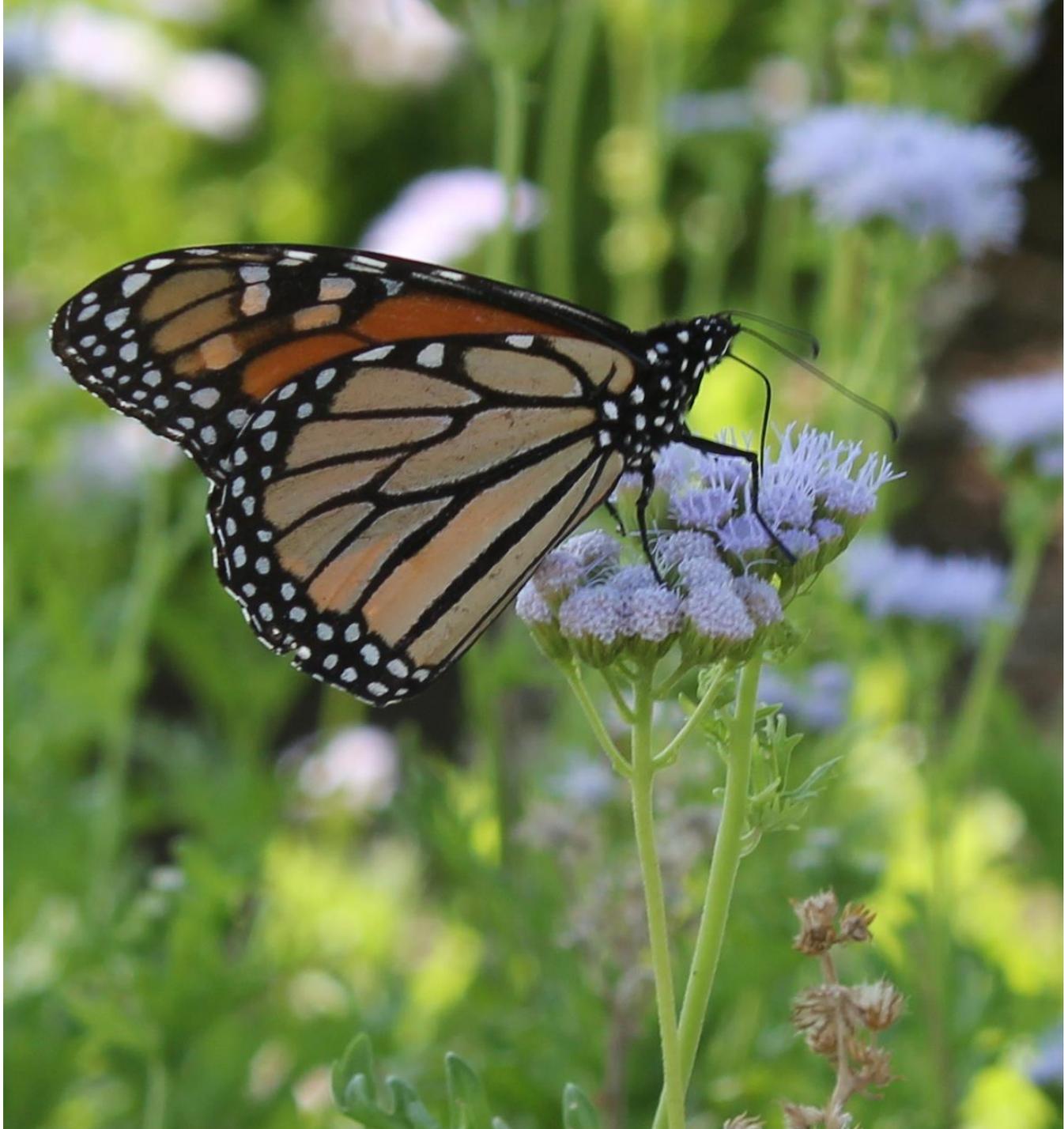














































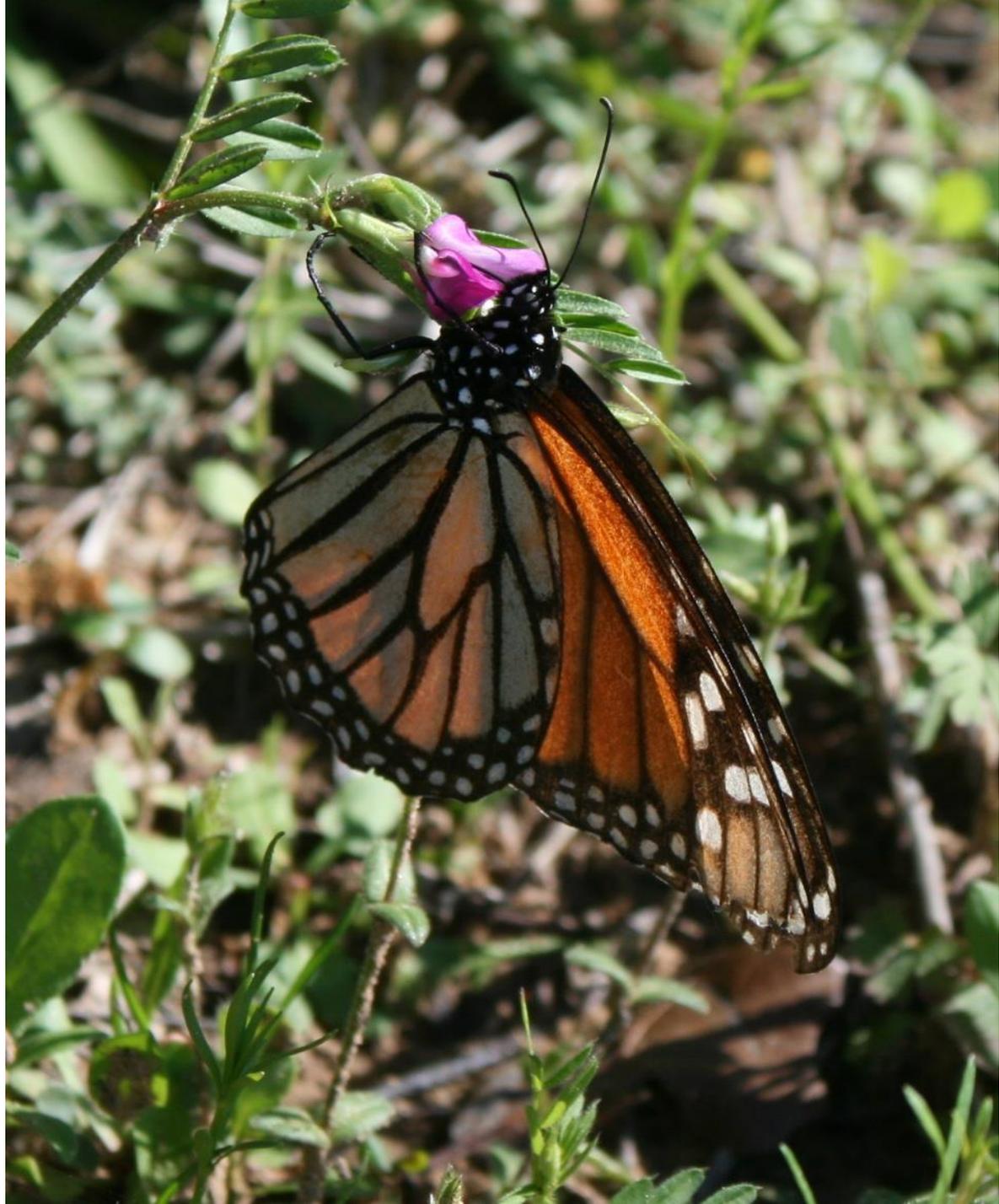
















*May All Your Weeds
be Wildflowers!*