

Hello Fellow Monarch Butterfly Enthusiast!

Is Your Garden Visited by Many Monarch Butterflies During the Summer Breeding Season?

Why monarch butterflies will end up in some gardens and not in some others during the spring-summer breeding season?

One of the most popular question that many folks all across North America among the thousands of Facebook groups involved in the monarch butterflies conservation efforts, during the breeding season usually asks is: “Why I haven’t seen any monarch in my garden yet?” - “It’s already mid- summer and I only saw one or two monarch flying by.” - “My native flowers are all blooming and no monarch butterflies have visited my garden yet.” - “Even though I have so many milkweed plants in my garden and it’s the middle of August no monarchs yet.” - “My huge milkweed patch hasn’t had no visitors yet.” Etc...

The list of questions asked in these Facebook goes on and on, unfortunately most of them aren’t clearly answered, and in most cases when another member does provide an answer by his own theory is usually as follows: “I know what you mean cause I’m having the same experience this year.” - “They are late coming due to weather issues down south.” - “I’m also waiting for them to show up in our area which is also full of native flowers and many milkweed plants.” - “I think the monarch population is lower this year, we need to be patient a bit longer.” Etc... In other words we’re all trying to show a human compassion in one way or another to make some folks at ease and that eventually the monarch butterflies will show up in our gardens sooner or later. (Even though for some folks very few ever do show up.)

Whenever these same questions were answered by some experts and or by scientists their were never very clear either, in some ways their theories were actually more confusing and contradicting among themselves due to many factors usually related to missing data or lack of studies done.

During my last six years involvement in monarch butterflies conservation by creating more habitats in our city and two counties with hundreds of thousands new milkweed plants and nectar rich flowers, by encouraging others to raise a few during the breeding season we noticed a huge increase of monarch butterflies in our communities.

Our cemented garden with just a few milkweed plants in small pots and containers sees hundreds of monarch plus other butterflies species as well and many bees on any giving day, usually starting from the end of June we find and collect an average of 25 to 40 eggs and small cats on a daily base. Some we raise ourselves while most of them are passed on to our local Facebook group members which they raise and release them in their own properties.

From January 2019 we have over 2700 members in our local Facebook group all living between 5- 45 minutes drive from each other, and it seems that almost everyone sees many monarchs visiting their gardens during the breeding season. Here’s my own monarch butterflies personal story started in 2017: [CLICK HERE](#)

We were just wondering if all these monarchs that shows up in our area every summer are just a coincidence, a combination of many milkweed plants and nectar rich flowers, or perhaps as many of us believe is due to the huge amount of rearing and releasing that takes place in our area every year that brings back the offspring of their great-great- great that were raised and released from the same gardens a year earlier.

This theory is hard to believe isn’t it? And yet, scientists are still trying to learn the many mysteries surrounding the monarch butterfly including their full ability to find the same area down in Mexico during the fall where they’ve never been before. If these fourth generations monarchs always finds those same trees, wouldn’t it be possible that their off spring generations could find the same gardens where their great-great-great came from? Food for the thought.