

The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of the Online Monarch Conservation Efforts.

Hello Fellow Monarch Butterfly Enthusiast.

Since Facebook changed their format we can only upload pdf files under our Files section, due to the fact that once has been uploaded we cant add or edit that page any longer. And so the only way to add something to the Files would be to create a new pdf document every time.

For that reason I'm creating a new pdf where I will list different links that pretty well covers the good, the bad and the ugly of the major topics concerning the monarch conservation efforts suggested by experts and scientific researches.

Again, my goal is only to provide you the information as it comes and you have the ultimate decision to decide which is the good, the bad or the ugly, whether the topic is about rearing versus not rearing, planting 100% only native flowers and plants versus a mixture of non native in your garden, or any other topics covered in these links.

After five years I've decided not to suggest or recommend anything in these facebook groups where too many people are always waiting for the wrong word on my behalf to start writing long and controversial comments on just about anything under the sun.
(Any question you may have in the future feel free to ask me anything you like by PM, email or by phone)

A few of our members have been blocked from our group due to a continuously complain from others regarding past negative and aggressive comments on their parts, as I'm sure more will be blocked in the future for one reason or another either by me or other Admins or Moderators.

I've reached 74 years of age, and would like to live in peace for the rest of my days and do the things that I like without having to explain, justify or be liked for every move I make by strangers regarding my monarch conservation views and daily tasks.

Whether you're in this group to observe and learn what others are doing, whether you're here to learn how to create a pollinator garden, whether you're here to raise monarch butterflies, or for any other reason you can think of, you are welcome and feel free to stay as long as you like.

Feel free to share any information, pictures and knowledge of your expertise and I would suggest to check our Rules and About of our group periodically as sometimes gets edited accordingly.

A special note to all our members who are involved in rearing monarchs, other butterflies and moths. Our M.N.R. (Ministry of Natural Resources) permit will be renewed annually and for those who have sent me their personal info last year have been submitted to the Ministry office. There isn't anything else to do yearly, except if there is a change of address, phone, etc..

As for those who have joined our group since last fall, if you are interested in the rearing activities you can send me your personal info to be submitted to the Ministry office ASAP.
Your Full Name, Address, Email, Phone Number. You can send by PM or by [Email](#)

As a stands right now, regardless of the Federal Government decision regarding the monarch status it will not change anything provincially. Here's my last email from our M.N.R. Office:
<http://www.savethemonarchbutterfly.ca/email-from-MNR.pdf>
Anytime there is any change I will post it in our group home page.

Now lets Concentrate on the Good, the Bad and the Ugly.

What do I mean by that you may say, well for one thing this world of our ours is full of the three mentioned above. You'll be the one deciding who's what on the various interesting topics.

As far as the monarch conservation efforts suggested methods by some scientists and experts do not share the same views, some are for rearing monarchs and some others are against it.
Here's a typical Google search to find out more info: "is rearing monarch butterflies good or bad"
I think within the first 2-3 pages you could pretty well see enough information to make your own assessment.

Now take a break and try another Google search: "is science doing enough for the monarch butterflies" Here again within the first 2-3 pages you should have enough info also.

After another long break or possibly the following day try this one:
"the good the bad and the ugly of monarch conservationist"
Feel free to go past the second or third page if you like, the answers that we're looking for are not clear and that simple.

Some scientists and experts think they have a solution with their study and findings, the media sounds very convincing with their articles, etc... And yet the monarch population is declining year after year before our eyes in this online total information chaos.

A lot of studies and publications are available online on this and other topics, in many cases some of them always suggests the "Hands Off" solution, which means do not rear, just plant milkweed and rich nectar flowers sources and let mother nature do the rest.
That would have worked thirty years ago and behind before the pesticides and herbicides spraying, the daily loss of habitats, the climate change, the illegal logging in the Mexican winter sanctuaries, when the annual migratory population was in the Billions.

Unfortunately now that the times have and are changing at rapid speed, it would be advisable that the scientific community would work together in order to come up with a better solution other than the "Hands Off." Especially when there are so many rearing monarchs all across North America!

Beside everything else there are topics where scientists are contradicting each other's and sometimes it's very hard to decide who to listen too, nevertheless we should consider to follow science, make up our own mind on what is the best decision to make in order to achieve our ultimate goals.

In my humble opinion with the ways things are going most folks would like to see science coming up with other solutions in order to improve the monarch population to a safer numbers in order to survive. Unfortunately for some of them this will never happen due to their strong believes or for whatever other reasons drives them, and so we will have to hope that some others will suggest something else in the near future before is too late.

So who do we believe and what are we supposed to do? Listen to Science only?
How do we know which scientist we should believe and which we shouldn't?
Waiting for someone else to give us more directions later? Giving up all together?

I've made my decision five years ago and today while searching google I had my confirmation from this link: <https://www.butterfly-ridge.com/bloggerfly/2020/4/9/and-yet-again-captive-raising-monarchs-is-declared-evil>

Towards the end of that page you will find this quote:

"Do your research. Raise your monarchs. And understand that science is not always as objective as we are taught in school. Happy flying!"

I do have more of these links if you're interested in reading them.

As I've mentioned earlier if you want to see and read mostly bad and ugly keep on google searching, on the other hand if you would like to see the good that you can do is to search in your hearth and mind before you make any decision about the best monarch conservation or anything else in life for that matter.

Whatever decision you'll make it's fine with me, and I will not try to make you change it in any ways.

Leo Silvestri

www.savethemonarchbutterfly.ca