

Baltimore Checkerspot

Euphydryas phaeton

-The Baltimore Checkerspot, or Baltimore, as it's also called, is famous because of its appetite of its caterpillars, which were once believed to eat one and only one plant. Although that plant, Turtlehead (*Clelone glabra*) is not widespread in the wild, it has become increasingly popular in gardens. If you plant it, you may become a new host to a new brood of Baltimore Checkerspots. The male and females look alike, but populations in various areas show some variation in color, although they are still mainly orange and black. Sharing a name with another orange and black winged creature, the Baltimore Oriole, is no coincidence. Both are named for Lord Baltimore, whose heraldic colors of his family crest were black and orange.



Wingspan:

1 ½ to 2 ½ inches

Caterpillar hosts:

The plant in which eggs are laid and that caterpillars eat before hibernating is the Turtlehead, (*Clelone glabra*). After overwintering, caterpillars may continue to use Turtlehead, but may also wander and feed on other plants including Arrowwood (*Viburnum recognitum*) and White Ash (*Fraxinus Americana*).

Adult food:

The adult Baltimore Checkerspot will feed on the nectar of the Milkweed, Wild Rose, and Viburnums.