

SEDGES, GRASSES, MISTLETOE AND BUTTERFLIES

A number of plants to be seen in this area have a strong association with particular insects.

The Symmomus Skipper Butterfly relies on the Spiny Headed Mat Rush for nectar, a home for its eggs and food for its caterpillars, while the Sword-grass Brown Butterfly, with its dark wings and orange triangular markings, relies similarly on Sword Sedge.

The caterpillars of the Common Brown Butterfly and the Eastern Ringed Xenica feed on Blue Tussock Grass and Weeping Grass, and the butterflies can be seen around these plants.

The Imperial White Butterfly, sometimes brightly patterned in red and yellow on the underside, lays its eggs in the mistletoe hosted by Black Wattles, where the pupae are often found among a silky web stretched over leaves and twigs.

In summer, Sweet Bursaria flowers attract the small native bee and other insects, which pollinate them, and these insects in turn provide a food source for native birds.

