

ATTRACTING BUTTERFLIES, NOT BEES IN THE GARDEN

If you love to garden and have a cat who has access to your backyard — supervised on leash and harness — be sure to select flowers, such as red roses, zinnias and jasmine, that attract butterflies more often than bees. That's the advice from Judy Macomber, a master gardener from Vista, Calif.

Many fruits, vegetables and flowers rely on the pollinating power of bees to thrive. Consult your county extension office or a master gardener for safe garden choices for your cat to reduce the incoming traffic of bees.

Again, with your cat on leash and harness, steer him away from ground covers, especially during sunny hours when bees gather nectar, says Elisa Mazzaferro, DVM, Ph.D., DACVEP, at the Cornell University Veterinary Specialists Center in Stamford, Conn.