

Butterfly-Pleurisy Root - *Asclepias tuberosa*

Last Updated Saturday, 02 February 2008

Family: Asclepiadaceae

Common Names: Butterfly weed, chigger weed, true butterfly, butterfly milkweed...

Some Common Uses: Use with caution and only properly prepared. The root is bitter and has a nutty-flavor which can increase perspiration, relieve spasms, and can be an expectorant. The Native Indians used it to relieve pleurisy which is how it got its name. The root can also be applied as a poultice to relieve pain in sores of the skin. The root has been very popular to treat a variety of lung diseases, ulcers, wounds, bruises, and lameness.

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