

# What is a Carnivorous Plant?

Any plant that has specially adapted to capturing and digesting insects and other animals

Eating insects allows them to supplement their nutrition since they grow in nutrient-poor areas

## How do they eat bugs?

There are 4 main trap styles:

- Pitfall Traps
- Flypaper Traps
- Snap Traps
- Bladder Traps



## Where do they live?



On every continent except Antarctica.

Find Carnivorous plants in wet, nutrient-poor soils such as bogs, swamps, forests, and sand or rocks.

# Venus Fly Traps



Native to bogs of North and South Carolina.  
Plants are 5-6" with traps about 1.5" long.  
"Traps" are leaves and "Teeth" are cilia.  
Small Trigger Hairs tell the trap when to close.

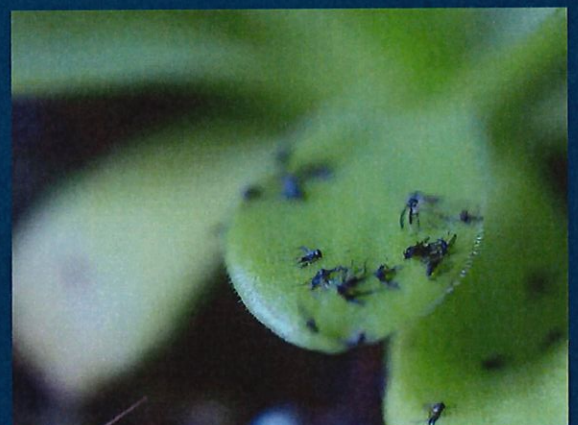


Despite the name "Fly Trap", they mostly eat  
crawling insects like ants and spiders.

# Butterworts



Most species are found in the Americas. Small glands release sticky fluid on leaves- luring insects in and trapping them. Besides insects, they can also eat leaves and pollen- that means they're herbivores too!

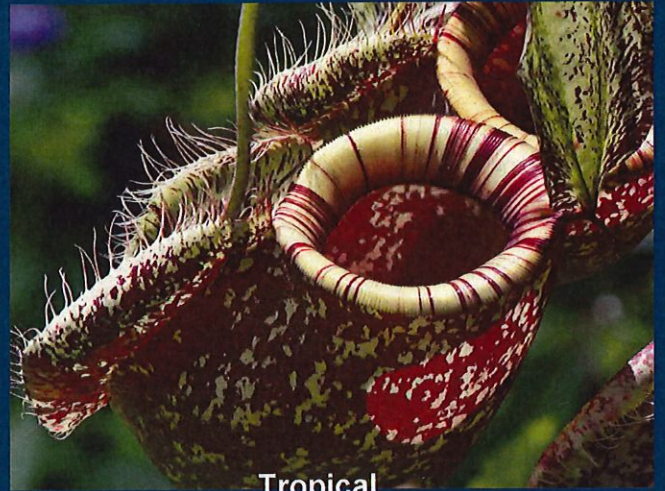


Their glistening leaves can be slippery and greasy, hence the “butter” in their name.

# Pitcher Plants



Temperate



Tropical

Temperate species are found in North America;  
Tropical species are found in Asia and Australia.  
Temperate pitchers grow as tubes from the  
ground; Tropical at the end of vines.  
Insects fall inside and drown in digestive juices.



Temperate



Tropical

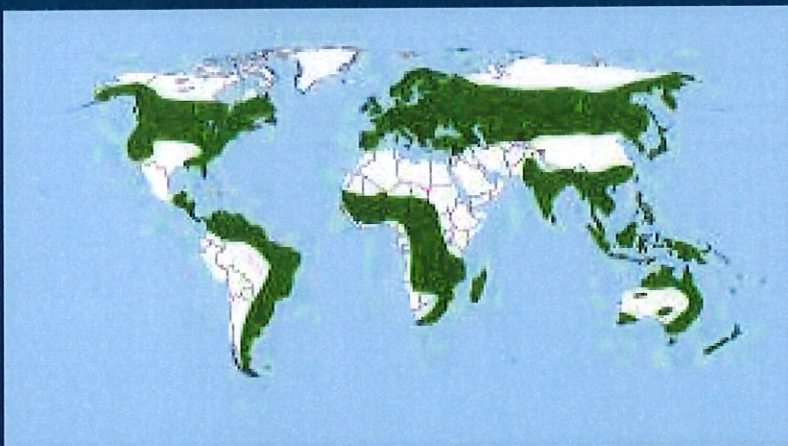
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Their “hats” are an Operculum- they help keep  
rainwater out of the trap

# Sundews



**Native to every continent except Antarctica.  
Sticky fluid lures in insects- the tentacles move  
to wrap the prey up tight after contact.  
Some species can snap their tentacles around  
prey in less than a second.**



**Some sundews can live for over 50 years!**