

# Inland Empire Garden Friendly



Save Water

## Plant Guide



Save water, and welcome birds,  
butterflies and admiring neighbors.

# The Following are Winners of Local Landscape Competitions



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Dear Reader,

With the increasing uncertainty of our future water supplies, the public has become aware of the need to utilize climate-appropriate plants. Unfortunately, most people don't know where to begin. The Inland Empire Garden Friendly program was created to assist consumers in locating and learning about climate-appropriate plants for the Inland Empire. The program provides educational opportunities and easily identifiable and obtainable sources of climate-appropriate plants.

An important resource of the program is this booklet. The plants listed are specifically chosen for their water conservation attributes and garden applicability in the Inland Empire. A \* indicates the item is available at The Home Depot More information and resources can be found at...

**[www.iegardenfriendly.com](http://www.iegardenfriendly.com)**



## Getting your drought tolerant plants established:

The key to getting your new drought tolerant plants established is providing them with the proper amount of water that they need when they need it (NOT when you have programmed your automated irrigation system to water). As a general rule, established drought tolerant plants have extensive root systems that enable them to access water when they need it – but getting a plant that has been grown in a container to have the necessary extensive root system in your garden's soil is another matter. The roots have to “catch up” to be able to support the top growth of the plant. The best way to accomplish this goal is to plant in the fall months, so that the cooler weather and the winter rains allow the plants root system to get a head start on getting their roots out into your garden's soil before the plants get stressed by summer heat and drought.

Many drought tolerant plants have thick leathery leaves that don't wilt, so it can be difficult for a gardener to know when the plant needs water. One of the best ways to assess this is to use a soil moisture tester. Be sure to follow the directions of the tester that you've purchased, and be sure to check BOTH the moisture of the actual root ball of the plant, as well as the adjacent soil where you want the plant's

roots to grow into.

One method for establishing your drought tolerant plants is to plant what I refer to as “sacrificial annuals” at the same time as you plant your drought tolerant plants. If chosen wisely, these annuals can be used like the “canary in a coal mine” – and when they wilt, your new drought tolerant plants almost certainly will need water. In this case, the goal is NOT to have spectacular annuals (if you do, you are probably watering your drought tolerant plants too much), but rather to provide your drought tolerant plants with enough water during the first two summers so that they will be established for the duration of their long lives. You will need to plant two sets of annuals per year, one set in October/November (winter annuals) and another set in May/June (summer annuals).

A general rule – your drought tolerant plants may be considered established when they have doubled in size from when you planted them AND after they have survived through two summers.

Always remember to keep exceptional weather conditions in mind. Winter droughts mean that you need to water your drought tolerant plants. Santa Ana wind conditions can be extremely stressful to young plants – water them deeply before the winds hit, sprinkle their foliage occasionally with water if

the winds last for days, check the soil around the plants after the winds have subsided and water accordingly. Extreme heat waves in summer are also stressful to your plants. In general, do not water during the hottest part of the day during such weather. If the plants need water, water them in the evening or in the early morning.

## EXPLANATION OF CHART CATEGORIES

### SUN EXPOSURE:

**F:** Indicates that the plant will grow in full sunlight.

**P:** Indicates that the plant will grow best in partial shade conditions (such as the dappled shade of a tree) OR that it may tolerate full sun in the morning and shade at the hottest part of the day and/or in the afternoon.

**S:** Indicates that these plants grow best in shade conditions such as the north side of a fence, wall, or building, or when grown in the shade of larger trees and shrubs.

### DRY SEASON WATERING:

These watering categories are specific to the plants included in this booklet, and refer to the water needs of ESTABLISHED plants. Also note that, as a general rule, these plants do want water during the wintertime (Nov. through Mar.). During drought years, be sure to deeply water your established plants if winter rainfall is below normal. When providing dry season water for your plants, do your best

to anticipate their water needs: Water the week before a heat wave is expected. Water the day before Santa Ana winds are predicted – and then again afterward if the plants are excessively dried out.

**L:** Indicates that these plants will generally perform best if they have deep watering **Once every 4 to 6 weeks**. These are truly drought tolerant plants that, once established, will normally survive with no added summer water.

**M:** Indicates that established plants may need deep water **Once every 2 - 3 weeks** during the dry months of the year.

**H:** Indicates that established plants may need deep water **Once every week or so** during the dry months of the year.

#### PLANT TYPE:

**T: (Tree)** Indicates that the plant may be grown as a single-trunked or multi-trunked tree. Most plants listed in both the tree and shrub categories are, when grown as trees, best grown as multi-trunked specimens.

**Sh: (Shrub)** Indicates plants that have woody stems and branches.

**Ps: (Perennial/Subshrub)** Indicates plants that typically do not have thick woody stems and branches, and these plants are generally smaller in size than most shrubs.

**V: (Vine)** Indicates that the plant grows by twining stems, some of which may, with age, become quite thick and woody.

**G: (Groundcover)** Indicates that the plant can be used as a groundcover. Note

that not all groundcover plants are flat growing. See plant descriptions for more information.

#### FOLIAGE:

**E: (Evergreen)** Indicates that the plant retains all or most of its foliage throughout the year. These plants often will lose some leaves throughout the year or will have a concentrated loss of leaves at one or two times during the year.

**D: (Deciduous)** Indicates that the plant loses all or most of its foliage during one or more seasons of the year.

#### OTHER:

**California native** indicates that the plant is either native to the state of California or that it is native to the Mediterranean climate portion of the west coast (including southwestern Oregon and northwestern Baja California, Mexico). Plants that are derived from these plants are also included.

Bart O'Brien, Director of Special Projects  
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden  
Claremont, CA [www.rsabg.org](http://www.rsabg.org)

**NAMES**

<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Common name</b>
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Agave</i> spp.*	Agave, Century plant
<i>Agave</i> 'Blue Flame'*	Blue Flame agave
<i>Agave parryi</i> var. <i>truncata</i>	Artichoke agave
<i>Anigozanthos</i> spp.*	Kangaroo paw
<i>Arbutus</i> spp.	Arbutus
<i>Arbutus</i> 'Marina'	Marina arbutus
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry tree
<i>Arctostaphylos</i> spp.	Manzanita
<i>Arctostaphylos edmundsii</i>	Little sur manzanita
<i>Arctostaphylos</i> 'Pacific Mist'	Pacific Mist manzanita
<i>Arctotis</i> spp.*	African daisy
<i>Arctotis</i> The Ravers Pumpkin Pie*	Pumpkin Pie African daisy
<i>Artemisia</i> spp.	Wormwood, Artemisia
<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush
<i>Artemisia californica</i> 'Canyon Gray'	Canyon Gray California sagebrush
<i>Artemisia californica</i> 'Montara'	Montara California sagebrush
<i>Artemisia</i> 'Powis Castle'	Powis Castle sagebrush
<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>	Great Basin sagebrush
<i>Baccharis</i> spp.	Coyote bush
<i>Baccharis</i> 'Pigeon Point'	Pigeon Point coyote bush
<i>Baccharis</i> 'Twin Peaks'	Twin Peaks coyote bush
<i>Baccharis</i> 'Starn'	Starn coyote bush
<i>Buddleja davidii</i> *	Butterfly bush
<i>Buddleja davidii</i> var. <i>nanhoensis</i> *	Dwarf butterfly bush
<i>Calliandra</i> spp.	Fairy duster
<i>Calliandra californica</i>	Baja fairy duster
<i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	Pink fairy duster
<i>Calylophus</i> spp.*	Sundrops
<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.	California wild lilac
<i>Ceanothus</i> 'Concha'	Concha California wild lilac
<i>Ceanothus griseus</i> var. <i>horizontalis</i> 'Yankee Point'	Yankee Point California wild lilac
<i>Ceanothus</i> 'Ray Hartman'	Ray Hartman California wild lilac
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	Desert willow
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i> 'Burgundy Lace'	Burgundy Lace desert willow
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i> 'Regal'	Regal desert willow
<i>Chilopsis linearis</i> 'Warren Jones'	Warren Jones desert willow
<i>XChitalpa tashkentensis</i>	Chitalpa
<i>XChitalpa tashkentensis</i> 'Morning Cloud'	Morning Cloud chitalpa
<i>XChitalpa tashkentensis</i> 'Pink Dawn'	Pink Dawn chitalpa
<i>Cistus</i> spp.*	Rockrose
<i>Cistus</i> x <i>hybridus</i>	White rockrose
<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Sageleaf rockrose
<i>Cistus</i> x <i>skanbergii</i>	Pink rockrose
<i>Cistus</i> 'Sunset'	Sunset rockrose
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	California buckwheat
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> 'Dana Point'	Dana Point California buckwheat
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> 'Theodore Payne'	Theodore Payne California buckwheat
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> 'Warriner Lytle'	Warriner Lytle California buckwheat
<i>Euryops pectinatus</i> *	Golden African daisy
<i>Euryops pectinatus</i> 'Viridis'	Viridis golden African daisy
<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>	Butterfly flower
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> *	Carolina jessamine
<i>Geranium incanum</i>	Carpet geranium
<i>Grevillea</i> spp.*	Grevillea
<i>Grevillea</i> x <i>gaudichaudii</i> *	Grevillea
<i>Grevillea lanigera</i> *	Woolly grevillea

\* indicates availability at The Home Depot



**NAMES**

<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Common name</b>
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon
Heteromeles arbutifolia 'Claremont'	Claremont toyon
Heteromeles arbutifolia 'Davis Gold'	Davis Gold toyon
Heuchera spp.	Coral bells, Alum root
Heuchera maxima	Island alum root
Heuchera 'Old La Rochette'	Old La Rochette coral bells
Heuchera sanguinea	Coral bells
Heuchera 'Santa Ana Cardinal'	Santa Ana Cardinal coral bells
Heuchera 'Wendy'	Wendy coral bells
Iris spp.	Iris
Iris douglasiana	Douglas iris
Iris germanica	Bearded iris
Iris spuria	Butterfly iris
Juniperus spp.	Juniper
Juniperus chinensis 'San Jose'	San Jose juniper
Juniperus procumbens 'Nana'	Japanese garden juniper
Lagerstroemia spp.	Crape myrtle
Lagerstroemia 'Biloxi'	Biloxi crape myrtle
Lagerstroemia 'Muskogee'	Muskogee crape myrtle
Lagerstroemia 'Natchez'	Natchez crape myrtle
Lagerstroemia 'Tuscarora'	Tuscarora crape myrtle
Lantana spp.*	Lantana
Lavandula spp.*	Lavender
Lavandula angustifolia	English lavender
Lavandula stoechas*	Spanish lavender
Lavandula stoechas 'Otto Quast'	Otto Quast Spanish lavender
Leucophyllum frutescens	Texas ranger
Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'	Canyon Prince wild ryegrass
Limonium perezii	Sea lavender
Muhlenbergia spp.	Muhlenbergia
Muhlenbergia dumosa	Bamboo muhly
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deer grass
Myoporum parvifolium*	Creeping myoporum
Myrtus communis	Myrtle
Myrtus communis 'Boetica'	Boetica myrtle
Myrtus communis 'Compacta'	Compacta myrtle
Myrtus communis 'Variegata'	Variegata myrtle
Nandina domestica*	Heavenly bamboo
Nandina domestica 'Gulf Stream'*	Gulf Stream heavenly bamboo
Osmanthus fragrans	Sweet olive
Osteospermum spp.*	Freeway daisy
Parkinsonia spp.	Palo verde
Parkinsonia 'Desert Museum'	Desert Museum palo verde
Pelargonium spp.	Geranium
Pelargonium x domesticum	Martha Washington geranium
Pelargonium tomentosum	Peppermint geranium
Penstemon spp.	Penstemon
Penstemon centranthifolius	Scarlet bugler
Penstemon heterophylla 'Margarita BOP'*	Margarita BOP foothill penstemon
Penstemon spectabilis*	Foothill penstemon
Perovskia spp.	Russian sage
Ptilotus exaltatus var. villosus 'Platinum Wallaby'*	Platinum Wallaby ptilotus
Quercus spp.	Oak
Quercus agrifolia	Coast live oak
Quercus engelmannii	Engelmann oak
Quercus lobata	Valley oak

\* indicates availability at The Home Depot

	Sun Shade	Dry Season Watering	Type	Foliage	California Native
	F, P	L, M	T, Sh	E	Yes
	F, P	L, M	T, Sh	E	Yes
	F, P	L, M	T, Sh	E	Yes
	P, S	M, H	Ps, G	E	Some
	P, S	M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	P	M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	P	M	Ps	E	
	P	M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	P	M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F, P, S	L, M	Ps	E	Some
	P	L, M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F, P	L, M	T, Sh, G	E	Some
	F, P	L, M	S, G	E	
	F, P	M	S, G	E	
	F	L, M	T, Sh	D	
	F	L, M	T	D	
	F	L, M	T	D	
	F	L, M	T	D	
	F	M	Sh, G	E	
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F	M	Sh	E	
	F, P	M, H	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F	M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M, H	Ps, G	E	Some
	F	M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F	M	Sh, G	E	
	F	L, M	Sh	E	
	F	L, M	Sh	E	
	F	L, M	Sh	E	
	F	L, M	Sh	E	
	F, P	M, H	Sh, G	E	
	F, P	M, H	Sh, G	E	
	P, S	M, H	T, Sh	E	
	F	M, H	Ps, G	E	
	F	L, M	T	D	Some
	F	L, M	T	D	Yes
	F, P	M, H	Ps, G	E, D	
	F, P	M, H	Ps	E	
	P	M, H	Ps, G	E	
	F, P	M, H	Ps, G	E	Some
	F	M, H	Ps	E	Yes
n	F	M, H	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F	M, H	Ps	E	Yes
	F	M, H	Ps	E, D	
	F	M	Ps	E	
	F	L, M, H	T	E, D	Some
	F	L, M	T	E	Yes
	F	L, M	T	E	Yes
	F	M	T	D	Yes

**NAMES**

<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Common name</b>
Rhamnus spp.	Rhamnus
Rhamnus alaternus	Italian buckthorn
Rhamnus californica	Coffee berry
Rhamnus californica 'Ed Holm'	Ed Holm coffee berry
Rhamnus californica 'Eve Case'	Eve Case coffee berry
Rhamnus californica 'Leatherleaf'	Leatherleaf coffee berry
Rhamnus californica 'Seaview Improved'	Seaview Improved coffee berry
Rhaphiolepis spp.	India hawthorn
Rhaphiolepis 'Rosea'	Rosea India hawthorn
Rhus spp.	Rhus
Rhus integrifolia	Lemonade berry
Rhus ovata	Sugar bush
Rosmarinus officinalis*	Rosemary
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Huntington Carpet'	Huntington Carpet rosemary
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Irene'	Irene rosemary
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Ken Taylor'	Ken Taylor rosemary
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'	Prostratus rosemary
Salvia spp.*	Sage
Salvia leucantha*	Mexican sage
Salvia spathacea*	Hummingbird sage
Teucrium spp.	Germander
Teucrium marjoricum	Fruity germander
Teucrium fruticans	Bush germander
Teucrium fruticans 'Azureum'	Azureum bush germander
Teucrium fruticans 'Compacta'	Compacta bush germander
Thymus spp.	Thyme
Tulbaghia violacea*	Society garlic
Verbena spp.	Verbena
Verbena bonariensis	Purpletop
Verbena lilacina	Lilac verbena
Verbena lilacina 'De La Mina'	De La Mina lilac verbena
Verbena lilacina 'Paseo Rancho'	Paseo Rancho lilac verbena
Vitis spp.	Grape
Vitis 'Roger's Red'	Roger's Red grape
Westringia fruticosa	Westringia
Westringia fruticosa 'Morning Light'	Morning Light westringia
Westringia fruticosa 'Wynyabbie Gem'	Wynyabbie Gem westringia
Wisteria spp.*	Wisteria
Wisteria sinensis*	Chinese wisteria
Zauschneria spp.	California fuchsia
Zauschneria 'Catalina'	Catalina California fuchsia
Zauschneria 'Route 66'	Route 66 California fuchsia
Zauschneria 'Select Mattole'	Select Mattole California fuchsia

\* indicates availability at The Home Depot

	<b>Sun Shade</b>	<b>Dry Season Watering</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Foliage</b>	<b>California Native</b>
	F	M	Sh	E	Some
	F	M	Sh	E	
	P, S	M	Sh	E	Yes
	P, S	M	Sh, G	E	Yes
	P, S	M	Sh	E	Yes
	P, S	M	Sh	E	Yes
	P, S	M	Sh, G	E	Yes
	F	M	Sh	E	
	F, P	M	Sh	E	
	F, P	L, M	Sh	E	Some
	F	L, M	Sh	E	Yes
	F	L, M	Sh	E	Yes
	F	L, M	Sh, G	E	
	F	L, M	Sh, G	E	
	F	L, M	Sh, G	E	
	F	L, M	Sh, G	E	
	F	L, M	Sh, G	E	
	F, P, S	L, M, H	Sh, Ps, G	E, D	Some
	F, P	M	Ps	E	
	F, P, S	M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F	M	Sh, Ps, G	E	
	F	M	Ps, G	E	
	F	M	Sh	E	
	F	M	Sh	E	
	F	M	Sh	E	
	F, P	M, H	Ps, G	E	
	F, P	M	Ps, G	E	
	F, P	L, M	Ps, G	E	Some
	F	L, M	Ps	E	
	F, P	L, M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F, P	L, M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F, P	L, M	Ps, G	E	Yes
	F	M	V	D	Some
	F	M	V	D	Yes
	F	M, H	Sh	E	
	F	M, H	Sh	E	
	F	M, H	Sh	E	
	F	M	V	D	
	F	M	V	D	
	F	M	Ps, G	E	Some
	F	M	Ps	E	Yes
	F	M	Ps	E	Yes
	F, P	M	Ps, G	E	Yes



Island Pink Yarrow

### ***Achillea millefolium* - Yarrow**

Evergreen, aromatic, finely-divided, bright green to grey-green foliage. Flat topped clusters of closely packed flower heads may be white, cream, yellow, orange, pink, magenta, or red. These plants can be used effectively in any sort of flower garden, and may also be used as groundcovers and even as a walked-on turf substitute. Simply mow the plants at the end of the flowering season or cut back the spent flower heads when their appearance becomes objectionable to you.



Foxtail Agave

### ***Agave* spp.\* -**

#### **Agave, Century plant**

Architectural plants that form rosettes of succulent leaves that often have spines. 'Blue Flame' is a hybrid between *A. attenuata* and *A. shawii*. Each thick succulent leaf has minute teeth along the margins and a long terminal spine that usually curves inward toward the heart of the plant. A mature rosette of 'Blue Flame'\* may reach 5 to 6 ft. across and will grow 3 to 4 ft. tall. Plants produce many pups and eventually form large colonies. A rosette will flower at 7 to 10 years of age, and subsequently dies, the profusion of pups will continue to mature. Plants should be protected from frost. Artichoke agave (*A. parryi* var. *truncata*) has grey-green leaves, wicked black terminal spines, and sharp marginal teeth. Rosettes will reach 3 ft. across and are 1 to 2 ft. tall. Plants typically produce pups from the base and can make large colonies.



Harmony  
Kangaroo Paw

Photo: Plants Express

### ***Anigozanthos* spp.\* - Kangaroo Paw**

Plants form evergreen clumps of green to grey-green, iris-like foliage. Spectacular long lasting flower clusters appear in spring and summer. Flowers can be yellow, orange, red, or green and are covered with short rough hairs. The flowering stems of the largest hybrids may reach 6 to 8 ft. tall, while dwarf varieties grow only 1 to 3 ft. high.



Strawberry Tree

### ***Arbutus* spp. - Arbutus**

Evergreen trees with moderate growth rates. 'Marina' may reach heights from 40 to 70 ft. tall (the shorter figure is much more typical) and has showy clusters of pink flowers in winter and spring that are followed by colorful orange to red 1-in. fruits that are edible, though bland. The bark peels each year and is deep red in color. Strawberry tree (*A. unedo*) has smaller clusters of white flowers and smaller fruits. Its rough bark varies from gray to rich cinnamon in color. Mature specimens may reach about 25 ft. high and are equally wide-spreading.



Howard McMinn  
Manzanita

### **Arctostaphylos spp. - Manzanita**

The best manzanita ground cover for our inland gardens is little sur manzanita (*A. edmundsii*). Plants have shiny green leaves and produce clusters of small white urn-shaped flowers in winter, that are followed by tiny apple-like fruits in spring and early summer. Plants are very low growing for many years, but will eventually mound up. Plants will reach from 1 to 3 ft. in height and will spread up to 6 to 8 ft. wide. 'Pacific Mist' with grey leaves and fewer clusters of white flowers needs more space. This selection will reach up to 3 ft. tall and will spread to 10 ft. wide. Young plants may appear sparse for a year or 2, but then quickly fill in.



Orange African Daisy

*Photo: Plants Express*

### **Arctotis spp.\* - African Daisy**

There are many types of African daisies, but nearly all of them have brightly colored daisy flowers. Plants usually have a low-growing, carpeting growth habit though some are clumping. Plants may be killed by hard frost in our region, but these fast growing, free-flowering plants are always welcome in the garden. The Ravers Pumpkin Pie has vibrant red-orange flowers and will reach about 1 ft. tall.



Powis Castle  
Wormwood

### ***Artemisia* spp. - Wormwood**

Grown for their finely cut white to grey-green foliage and small flowers, these plants provide a soothing backdrop for colorful flowers or green foliage. 'Powis Castle' is a dense mound of attractive grey to white foliage 3 - 4 ft. tall and 6 - 8 ft. wide. Great Basin sagebrush (*A. tridentata*) is a woody shrub that has ever-green silvery foliage and upright growth habit to 3 - 6 ft. tall and wide. Plants are fast growing and bring age to a garden. California sagebrush (*A. californica*) has finely cut aromatic leaves, and is one of the most common native plants in California. This semi-woody plant may reach 6 ft. tall and wide. 'Montara' is a low mounding form to 2 ft. tall and 4 ft. across. 'Canyon Gray' is a groundcover from 3 - 6 in. tall and spreading to 8 ft.



Coyote Bush

### ***Baccharis* spp. - Coyote bush**

This low growing to mounding shrub has fine textured green to grey-green leaves and is nearly indestructible. This is an easily grown California native. When plants grow too tall, or look too tired, cut back severely in January. Fresh new growth will follow, especially if a very light application of a nitrogen fertilizer is added after pruning. Seedless male varieties include: 'Twin Peaks' with very small leaves, and 'Pigeon Point' with large, green, leaves and a lax growth habit. 'Starn', a male hybrid, has predominantly green branches with small green leaves and tolerates extreme heat and drought better than the others.



Pink Delight  
Butterfly Bush

Photo: Plants Express

### ***Buddleja davidii*\* -**

#### **Butterfly bush**

Evergreen large shrubs typically reaching from 10 to 15 ft. tall and equally wide. Coarse textured leaves are about 6 in. long that are dark green above and whitish below. 6 to 12 in. conical flower clusters appear throughout the summer. Plants should be cut back hard every winter. Fragrant flower may be purple, lavender, pink, or whitish and most have an orange center. Purple-flowered forms seem to attract the most butterflies. Dwarf plants are referred to as *B. d. var. nanhoensis*, and reach from 3 to 5 ft. tall and have proportionately smaller leaves and flower clusters.



Pink Fairy Duster

### ***Calliandra* spp. - Fairy duster**

There are 2 primary types in Southern California gardens: **Baja fairy duster** (*C. californica*) has vibrant red flowers. This plant grows much larger – up to 6 ft. tall and may spread even wider. These shrubs often have a rather open growth habit, and are at their best when grown in front of plants. **Pink fairy duster** (*C. eriophylla*) is native to California and has pinkish flowers, and a mature plant typically grows from 2 to 3 ft. tall and spreads to 3 to 5 ft. wide. Some plants will send up additional shoots from underground roots, but these are rarely a problem for most gardens or gardeners.



Sundrops

***Calylophus*\* spp. - Sundrops**

This perennial's bowl-shaped, 1-in. bright yellow flowers, thin leaves, and wiry stems combine to suggest fragility - yet this durable plant requires very little care or attention. Sundrops will grow to about 1 ft. tall and up to 2 ft. wide. Plants have a long bloom season, from spring - fall, but they may take a break during extreme summer heat especially if grown dry.



Concha California  
Wild Lilac

***Ceanothus* spp. -**

**California wild lilac, *Ceanothus***

Evergreen small trees, shrubs, and groundcovers with spectacular blue flowers in spring: **C. 'Ray Hartman'** can be grown as a small multi-trunked tree, as an informal hedge, or screen up to about 15 ft. tall and wide. Oval-shaped shiny green leaves are attractive and may be 2 in. long. Sky blue flower clusters vary in size with the plants age and can be 2-4 in. long. **C. 'Concha'** has a rigid, arching growth habit and may be 8 ft. tall with a wider spread. Indigo blue flowers nearly cover the dark green leaves. Plant this shrub as a spring focal point. ***C. griseus* var. *horizontalis*** **'Yankee Point'** is widely grown in California. Lustrous oval leaves make this ground-cover beautiful all year. Plumes of blue flowers adorn the foliage for a month during the spring. These plants can grow large - up to 20 ft. across. Crowded plantings pile up quickly and reach 6 ft. in height. Well spaced plantings pruned each spring to remove upright growth can be kept at 2 - 3 ft. high.



Rockrose

Photo: Plants Express

### ***Cistus\* spp.* - Rockrose**

Perfectly adapted to Southern California's climate, these-Mediterranean shrubs are great choices for a dry garden. Mature plants are typically covered with showy white, pink, or rose-colored flowers during the spring. The resinous fragrant foliage may be green, grey, or olive in color. Many plants have low mounding growth habits, making them good groundcovers. Some include white rockrose (*C. x hybridus*), sageleaf rockrose (*C. salviifolius*), pink rockrose (*C. x skanbergii*), and Sunset rockrose (*C. 'Sunset'*). These plants are good for slopes, and combine well with California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) and rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*).



Burgundy Lace  
Desert Willow

### ***Chilopsis linearis* and *XChitalpa tashkentensis* -**

#### **Desert willow and Chitalpa**

Fast growing deciduous trees or large shrubs. Desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) is 1 of the parents of the chitalpa, and is well worth growing. Look for the following desert willows: 'Warren Jones' (often evergreen and has large pink flowers), 'Burgundy Lace' with deep purple flowers, 'Regal' has bicolored flowers that are dark purple and pale lavender. There are 2 named selections of chitalpa: 'Morning Cloud' grows up to 25 ft. tall with white flowers and purple lines in the throat, 'Pink Dawn' reaches 15 ft. tall with pale pink flowers. All desert willows and chitalpas appreciate some deep summer irrigation that will result in more flowers.



Theodore Payne  
California Buckwheat

***Eriogonum fasciculatum* -  
California buckwheat**

Evergreen shrubs with clusters of narrow deep green leaves and whitish to pinkish flat topped or pompon-like flower heads. This species may reach up to 5 ft. or so in height, but the groundcover forms listed here typically top out from 1 to 3 ft. high. 'Dana Point' is extremely vigorous and quickly spreads up to at least 10 ft. wide. 'Theodore Payne' is considerably smaller, usually not more than 5 to 6 ft. wide, and has white pompon flower heads and brighter green leaves. 'Warriner Lytle' has olive green foliage and light, airy flower clusters and pink flower buds. This selection may reach 3 to 5 ft. wide.



Viridis Golden  
African Daisy

*Photo: Plants Express*

***Euryops pectinatus*\* -  
Golden African Daisy**

Grey green (rarely bright green as in the case of the cultivar 'Viridis') deeply divided foliage provide a lovely setting for the spring to early summer blooms that are bright golden-yellow daisies. Plants will reach 3 to 4 ft. in height and are equally wide spreading. These plants are especially easy to grow.



Butterfly Flower

***Gaura lindheimeri* -  
Butterfly flower**

Evergreen perennial to 4 ft. tall with an equal spread. Plants are long-lived, have a deep taproot, and have rather sparse foliage that is often spotted red. White flowers turn pink as they age and are produced in a seemingly un-ending supply from spring through fall, on decorative long wands. In some gardens, this plant can become invasive, so it is always a good idea to cut back flower stalks before seeds ripen. There are pink flowered forms as well as selections with variegated foliage.



Carolina Jessamine

Photo: Plants Express

***Gelsemium sempervirens*\* -  
Carolina Jessamine**

Evergreen vine with many clusters of golden yellow, sweetly scented flowers in spring. Glossy green leaves are attractive throughout the year. This vine climbs by relatively thin, twining stems that may reach heights up to 20 ft.. All parts of this plant are poisonous.



Carpet geranium

***Geranium incanum* -  
Carpet geranium**

Evergreen, spreading perennial less than 1 ft. tall and around 2 ft. wide. This plant's vigorous carpet of finely divided evergreen foliage is an unusual foil for the showy rosy-purple flowers that are freely produced from spring through fall. Carpet geranium can border on being invasive in some gardens. This plant may be cut back hard in winter to keep in under control and tidy.



Woolly Grevillea

Photo: Plants Express

### ***Grevillea* spp.\* - Grevillea**

Evergreen trees and shrubs and groundcovers that bloom in winter and spring. Plants typically prefer well-drained soils. All have unusual flowers that are attractive to hummingbirds.

***Grevillea (G. x gaudichaudii)*** is a groundcover up to 12 in. tall and spreading 6 to 9 ft. wide. Dark green divided leaves have sharp point, and new growth is reddish. Attractive flowers are 3 to 6 in. long and are deep red. Prune the plant lightly after it blooms. Best grown in partial shade. **Woolly Grevillea (*G. lanigera*\*)** is variable as there are groundcover forms ('Prostrata' and shrubby forms that may reach 10 ft. tall. Dense, woolly leaves cover the plant. Reddish pink to cream colored flowers appear most heavily from late winter to spring, but some flowers are produced throughout the year.



Claremont Toyon

### ***Heteromeles arbutifolia* - Toyon**

Toyon is often compared to the Mediterranean's olive, both plants can be used as formal and informal screens and hedges, multi-trunked small trees, and standard small trees. Toyon has large clusters of small white flowers in May and June, these are followed by long-lasting red berries in fall - winter. The berries are used as holiday decorations. As the berries age and ferment, they become a favorite food for many species of birds. Yellow ('Davis Gold' and 'Claremont') and orange berried forms are also available.



Coral Bells

### **Heuchera spp. -**

#### **Coral bells, Alum root**

Evergreen with white, pink, or red flowers. Plants do best under deciduous trees where plants get sun in winter and shade in summer. Mass plants for visual impact. **Island alum root (*H. maxima*)** is the largest at 12 - 18 in. tall and 2 - 3 ft. wide. White flowers on 3 ft. stems in spring last a month. Grey-green leaves are covered with soft hairs.

**Coral bells (*H. sanguinea*)** are great edging plants. 3 - 4 in. tall. 1 ft. flower stalks have many red flowers. These two provide many hybrids: 'Santa Ana Cardinal' has shiny green leaves and red flowers on 2 ft. stalks, 'Wendy' has grey-green leaves and 2 ft. flower stalks with pink flowers, 'Old La Rochette' has green leaves and 3 ft. flower stalks with pale pink flowers.



Douglas Iris

### **Iris spp. - Iris**

Evergreen spring-blooming perennials with thick underground rhizomes, narrow leaves grow in fans. **Bearded iris (*I. germanica*)** come in many colors and sizes, and are easy to grow. Grayish 1 in. wide leaves age to pale brown and are easily pulled. **Douglas iris (*I. douglasiana*)** 1 ft. tall with lavender blue flowers, plants do best in partial shade. Dark green leaves are 1/2 in. wide, and age to a russet brown. Cut off spent foliage instead of pulling as they don't come off easily until aged a year or more. **Butterfly iris (*I. spuria*)** grow 3 to 5 ft. tall and are upright plants. Flowers are yellow, white, or lavender blue. Cut back after blooms.



Juniper

***Juniperus* spp. - Juniper**  
Evergreen groundcovers, shrubs, and trees. There is a juniper for just about every landscape situation, these beautiful and easy to care for plants are often overused or planted in spaces that are too small for their mature size. Junipers have scale-like or needle-like aromatic leaves. **Japanese garden juniper (*J. procumbens* ‘Nana’)** has stiff low spreading branches, blue-grey dense needle-like leaves and grows to 12 in. tall and spreads 4 to 6 ft. wide. **San Jose juniper (*J. chinensis* ‘San Jose’)** has dark green needle-like foliage and grows to 2 ft. tall and spreads up to 6 ft. wide. Plants are slow growing and durable.



Natchez Crape Myrtle

***Lagerstroemia* spp. - Crape myrtle**  
Deciduous small trees with colorful flowers throughout the summer and into fall. These trees can also have attractive fall color, and elegant smooth brown bark that peels in patches. There are many flower colors white, red, pink, lavender, and bicolors. The foliage is often afflicted by mildew, though the Indian tribes hybrids were developed specifically for mildew resistance. Some of the best of these hybrid trees are: ‘Biloxi’ has pink flowers, ‘Muskogee’ has lavender flowers, ‘Natchez’ has white flowers, and ‘Tuscarora’ has reddish flowers. Dwarf (shrubby) varieties that grow from 2 to 8 ft. tall are also sold.



Lavender Lantana

Photo: Plants Express

### **Lantana spp.\* - Lantana**

Color, color, color for months on end! With caveats: berries are poisonous and some are allergic to the foliage. Plants may freeze back in colder areas; when this happens wait until the danger of further frost damage has passed and cut the plants back to live stems. Older plants may be rejuvenated by hard pruning, or mowing with a brush mower in late winter or early spring – after the chance of frost. There are innumerable named selections in many colors, and combinations of colors, including: white, lavender, yellow, orange, pink, and red. Growth habits vary from low groundcovers to single-trunked patio trees, so be sure to carefully select a plant that will grow in the space that you have available for it.



Otto Quast Lavendar

Photo: Plants Express

### **Lavandula spp.\* - Lavender**

There are myriad lavenders to choose from for Southern California. They typically have attractive grey foliage and spikes of blue, white, pink, or lavender flowers. Most like to be cut back hard after they have bloomed in June or July (though you should not cut them back hard for at least 1 full year after planting), and if done annually lavenders are long-lived plants. **Spanish lavender (*L. stoechas*\*)** has showy bracts atop each flower cluster, and does not require hard pruning every year, ‘Otto Quast’ is a popular selection. English lavender (*L. angustifolia*) is the familiar lavender of commerce. There are many named selections of this species.



Texas Ranger

***Leucophyllum frutescens* - Texas ranger**

Evergreen, grey foliated, dense shrubs having 1 in. wide, showy, purple, pink, to white flowers in profusion in summer and fall. Rounded leaves densely clothe the stems and are about 1 in. across. Plants reach 5 - 10 ft. tall and almost as wide. Scattered deep summer irrigations promote heavy blooms. Established plants survive summers without irrigation, but won't flower much.



Canyon Prince  
Wild Rye Grass

***Leymus condensatus***

**'Canyon Prince' -**

**Canyon Prince wild ryegrass**

This broad-leaved grass is an easy and beautiful plant for the garden. Leaf blades may be nearly 1 in. across and are a steel-blue. Plants form dense clumps in heavy soils, and looser running colonies in sandy soil. Established plants are easily divided in fall. Clumps make great backdrops for smaller perennials.



Sea Lavendar

***Limonium perezii* - Sea lavender**

Evergreen perennial 2 - 3 ft. tall, forming broad rosettes of 1-ft. long, leathery, deep green leaves. Plants produce showy, large, dome-like masses of long lasting papery purple bracts that house ephemeral white flowers. These make excellent dried flowers when cut and hung to dry upside down. Plants can be killed by frost, but they are easy and fast growing, so losing a plant is not a problem. Self-sown seedlings may appear in the garden and are almost always welcome.



Deer Grass

## ***Muhlenbergia* spp. - Muhlenbergia**

These long-lived easy to grow grasses are widely adapted to gardens. Of the many species, 2 stand out as especially useful for our region. **Bamboo muhly (*M. dumosa*)** is native to the southwest (not to California) and has a graceful arching growth habit with cane-like stems that may reach from 4 to 6 ft. in height, similar in look to a bamboo (but it isn't). Thin out the oldest stems when they begin to look ragged. Do not cut back hard as it often does not respond well to this treatment. **Deer grass (*M. rigens*)** is native to California and is a great choice for large scale plantings or for pattern plantings. Mature clumps resemble giant pincushions with their narrow flower spikes reaching heights of 4 - 6 ft. tall. Established plants tolerate a wide range of irrigation regimes, making this species one of the best choices for that difficult transition area in many gardens: between a regularly irrigated lawn and a much drier landscape planting. When necessary, cut the plant back hard in Feb. to Mar., before new growth occurs.



Putah Creek  
Creeping Myoporum  
*Photo: Plants Express*

## ***Myoporum parvifolium*\* - Creeping myoporum**

Evergreen carpeting shrub to 6 in. tall and 10 - 20 ft. wide. Narrow, lush-green, succulent leaves densely clothe the stems. Small flowers, pink or white, are not particularly showy. This plant is a great choice for large areas, but it does not tolerate foot traffic.



Compact Myrtle

### ***Myrtus communis* - Myrtle**

The appearance of these plants is deceptive – their dark green shiny foliage makes them look like they would want more water, but rest assured that these durable Mediterranean shrubs are quite drought-tolerant. Small white flowers dot the plants in spring and are followed by small blue-black fruits that are eaten by birds. These plants may be pruned into formal hedges or screens, or they may be allowed to grow informally. There are a number of cultivars: ‘Boetica’ is a taller (up to 8 ft.), more angular form with much larger leaves. ‘Compacta’ is the form most typically seen and has dense small leaves and a crowded growth habit. ‘Variegata’ has creamy variegated leaves.



Gulf Stream Nandina

*Photo: Plants Express*

### ***Nandina domestica*\* - Heavenly bamboo**

Though its common name might indicate that this plant is a bamboo, it isn't. It is an ever-green clumping member of the barberry family with a vertical growth habit. When pruning this plant, cut the stems that are too tall to the ground, new basal shoots will emerge to take their place. The leaves are leathery and are finely divided. Heavenly bamboo's roots compete very well with aggressive tree roots. ‘Gulf Stream’\* may reach 3 ft. tall and has fresh grey-green foliage that turns red during the fall and winter months.



Sweet Olive

***Osmanthus fragrans* -  
Sweet olive**

Tall evergreen shrub 8 to 15 ft. tall (though it can eventually grow into a 30 ft. tall tree) primarily grown for its durability and the pervasive sweet fragrance of its tiny flowers. Dark green leaves are less than 2 in. wide and up to 4 in. long. New growth is coppery. Tiny white or orange flowers are produced in small clusters sporadically throughout the year. Plants are often slow growing, and do not like dry winds. Great hedge or screen plant.



Purple Freeway Daisy

*Photo: Plants Express*

***Osteospermum\* spp.* -  
Freeway daisy**

Evergreen perennials producing masses of daisy flowers. Thick green leaves are topped by colorful daisy flowers that may be white, purple, pink, orange, or yellow. Plants typically bloom most heavily in spring, with smaller quantities of flowers produced in summer and fall. Plants of the Symphony Series are particularly floriferous and grow to about 1 ft. tall and spread to 3 ft. wide, and the flowers are at least 2 in. across.



Palo Verde

Photo: Plants Express

### **Parkinsonia spp. - Palo verde**

Though these are deciduous trees, many people rarely notice as these plants have attractive green trunks and branches throughout the year. Waves of bright yellow flowers appear from mid-spring - summer. To encourage more flowers, give your established trees deep watering once or twice a month in summer. The light dappled shade provided by palo verde trees is easy to garden under. 'Desert Museum' is a hybrid that blooms profusely through late spring, summer and well into fall, with flowering triggered by periodic deep irrigation. This tree can be grown single trunked, or multi-trunked.



Common Geranium

### **Pelargonium spp. - Geranium**

Many of these geraniums have fragrant foliage, and are often sold by their scent: apple, nutmeg, lime, etc. In our hot inland gardens, all of these plants perform best when grown in afternoon shade. **Martha Washington (*P. x domesticum*)** grow to about 3 ft. tall and have very showy white, pink, red, lavender, purple, or near black flowers. Plants bloom from spring to early summer. Cut back these plants by 1/2 to 1/3 in Nov.-Dec. for best appearance and flower production. **Peppermint (*P. tomentosum*)** has densely hairy leaves that are very fragrant when crushed. Plants grow to about 2 ft. tall and spread an indefinite distance as the stems root where they touch the ground. This is an outstanding groundcover for dappled shade. Protect from frost.



Penstemon

Margarita BOP

Photo: Plants Express

**Penstemon spp.\* - Penstemon**

Evergreen perennials that prefer full sun, well-drained soil, and good air circulation. All are spectacular in bloom, but many are short-lived. Dead head plants early to direct the plant's energy into producing more growth or more flowers. **Scarlet bugler (*P. centranthifolius*)** may reach 3 - 5 ft. tall, and has attractive grey foliage, and narrow, tubular, orange-red flowers that are hummingbird favorites.

**Margarita BOP penstemon (*P. heterophyllus* 'Margarita BOP'\*)** is a very floriferous selection that is easy to grow in most gardens. Blue-violet, 2-in. flowers appear on 6-in. flower stalks in spring and early summer. Plants may reach 2 ft. tall and 2 - 3 ft. wide. Dense, narrow, blue-green leaves are 1 - 3 in. long. **Foothill Penstemon (*P. spectabilis*)** reaches 3 - 5 ft. tall and has dozens of blue, violet, or white flowers. Plants are short lived, but are spectacular when they bloom in spring and early summer. The green leaves have coarsely serrated margins and the upper leaves clasp stems.



Russian Sage

**Perovskia spp. - Russian sage**

Semi-evergreen perennial subshrub reaching 3 - 4 ft. tall when in bloom, and spreading via rhizomes to form larger clumps. Grey-green hairy leaves are finely divided. Airy, branched, flower clusters carry clouds of lavender to deep purple flowers. Cut off old flower stalks to prolong bloom. Plants prefer well drained soil. Cut plants to the ground in winter before new growth starts.



Platinum Wallaby  
Pilotus

***Ptilotus exaltatus* var. *villosus*\*  
'Platinum Wallaby' -**

**Platinum Wallaby *ptilotus***

Evergreen perennial from 1 to 2 ft. tall, with a narrower spread. The foliage is rather small and insignificant, but the feathery, conical flower heads are spectacular and very long lasting. The flowers are pinkish, but the linear long-haired bracts are grey green, lending a soft silvery look to the flowers. There's nothing else like this plant in our Southern California gardens. This plant wants full sun and likes warm to hot weather. It also prefers alkaline soil.



Coast Live Oak

***Quercus* spp. - Oak**

Large stately trees that grow fairly quickly despite their reputation for being slow growing. **Coast live oak (*Q. agrifolia*)** is the iconic evergreen oak of Southern California, and reaches 30 ft. tall and 40 ft. wide in 20 years. **Engelmann oak (*Q. engelmannii*)** typically grows best in heavier soils and may reach 25 ft. tall and wide in 20 years. This species usually loses its old leaves as the new leaves emerge in spring. **Valley oak (*Q. lobata*)** is fast growing and deciduous. It is the world's largest oak and will quickly reach heights up to 20 ft. tall and 15 ft. wide within 10 to 15 years.



Coffeeberry

### ***Rhamnus* spp. - Rhamnus**

Those listed here are outstanding formal and informal evergreen shrubs for use as hedges and screens. Flowers are insignificant, but some have attractive fruits (such as coffee berry). **Italian buckthorn (*R. alaternus*)** has glossy green leaves and a narrow, upswept growth habit that typically reach 8 to 10 ft. tall. This plant tolerates shearing. **Coffee berry (*R. californica*)** is quite variable and many sizes and foliage colors are available: 'Eve Case' has mid-green wide leaves and may reach from 6 to 8 ft. tall and up to 10 ft. wide. 'Leatherleaf' has extremely dark green leaves and tolerates shade. It may reach from 4 to 6 ft. high, and has a similar spread. 'Ed Holm' and 'Seaview Improved' are dwarf mounding varieties that may reach from 2 to 3 ft. in height and up to 4 ft. wide.



Indian Hawthorn

### ***Rhaphiolepis* spp. - Indian hawthorn**

Ubiquitous evergreen shrubs with shiny, thick, leathery leaves, coppery new growth, and pink (rarely white) flowers from late winter through spring. The many named varieties range in size from 3 ft. to 8 ft. tall, and most spread somewhat wider than they grow tall. Most of these plants have very stiff stems and branches (an exception is the old selection 'Rosea' that has a loose growth habit). Easily grown in most garden conditions, except hot reflected heat that burns the foliage. Prune the plants after they bloom.



Sugar Bush

### ***Rhus* spp. - Rhus**

There are many great plants in this genus. Two large drought tolerant, easy to grow, evergreen shrubs are: **Sugar bush (*R. ovata*)**; may become the size of a small tree. Attractive large shiny leaves are thick, leathery and usually folded in half. Red to pink flower buds in winter make great holiday decorations. Best used as informal hedges and screens. **Lemonade berry (*R. integrifolia*)** may grow equally large. With smaller, grey-green leaves and holly-like margins, it may be used for formal clipped hedges. Flower clusters are smaller than sugar bush, but still attractive. Both plants grow slow for the first year or 2 while establishing a deep root system, after that they grow at a moderate or fast growth rate.



Prostrate Rosemary

*Photo: Plants Express*

### ***Rosmarinus officinalis*\* - Rosemary**

Long lived evergreen shrubby groundcover with blue flowers and aromatic dark green needle-like leaves. Prune out upright growth on young plants to maintain a uniform low growing stature. Some of the best groundcover selections are: **'Prostratus'** the old reliable standard with pale blue flowers and dark grey-green leaves. **'Huntington Carpet'** has pale blue flowers and is fast growing. **'Irene'** has blue flowers and is lower-growing. **'Ken Taylor'** has deep blue flowers and dark green leaves, and will reach heights of 2 to 3 ft. tall if not pruned annually. There are many taller selections of rosemary, that may reach up to 8 ft.



Santa Barbara  
Mexican Sage

Photo: Plants Express

### **Salvia spp. - Sage**

There are literally hundreds of species, hybrids, and cultivars of sages – a daunting diversity for most gardeners. Many are drought-tolerant, including these great garden plants: **Mexican sage (*S. leucantha*\*)** is typically a large perennial reaching up to 5 to 6 ft. tall when in flower and forming ever-expanding clumps up to 5 to 8 ft. across. Plants flower over a long season, nearly year round in some places, but are best cut to the ground in late winter before the new growth emerges. All parts of the flowers (including the stems and buds) are covered with attractive purple or white fuzz, the flowers themselves can be white, pink, or purple and may be a different color than the fuzz.



Hummingbird Sage

Photo: Plants Express

**Hummingbird sage (*S. spathacea*\*)** is native to California and usually has deep red flowers that are irresistible to hummingbirds. Plants typically do best when grown in partial shade, though some will perform very well in full sun or full shade. All parts of the plant have a distinct fruity fragrance. The plants may spread to form clumps via underground stems, and the foliage mass may reach from 1 to 2 ft. tall (the taller stems can be pruned out in late fall or winter to give the plant a more uniform appearance). Flowers appear from late winter to early summer, though an off-season bloom or two is not uncommon.



Germander

### ***Teucrium* spp. - Germander**

There are many types of germanders that are excellent garden plants, though 2 are especially useful in our local gardens: **Fruity germander (*T. majoricum*)** is a low-growing evergreen groundcover with numerous showy purple flower heads from spring to fall. Plants typically reach from 2 to 6 in. tall, and spread up to 2 to 3 ft. wide. For best appearance, cut off the old flower heads when they are done blooming.

**Bush germander (*T. fruticans*)** has white stems and their leaves have equally white undersides. The upper surfaces of the leaves are dark green. Flowers are varying shades of blue. This plant may be sheared into just about any shape: globes, cubes, hedges, etc. – your imagination is the only limit. If left unpruned, this plant can reach as much as 8 to 10 ft. tall with a nearly equal spread. ‘Compacta’ is smaller, reaching just 5 to 6 ft. in height. ‘Azureum’ has deep blue flowers.



Thyme

### ***Thymus* spp. - Thyme**

Thymes are excellent choices for difficult spaces in between stepping stones, as small groundcovers, miniature hedges, or toward the front of a mixed border. There are dozens of species and selections to choose from. Nearly all have fragrant foliage and all produce tiny flowers in small heads. These plants are not quite as drought-tolerant as many of the others, though they require a lot less water than typical garden plants.



Society Garlic

Photo: Plants Express

### ***Tulbaghia violacea*\* -**

#### **Society garlic**

Evergreen bulb. South Africa's society garlic has become a common component of Southern California gardens and landscapes due to its profusion of pale lavender flowers from late winter to early summer and its wide adaptability to garden conditions. Plants have narrow strap-like grey leaves and create a mass of foliage that is about 4 in. tall. Clumps continue expanding as they age, and are easily divided. The plants have a scent that is not always welcome in an enclosed space. Be sure that this will not be a problem for you before you plant many of them in your garden.



Rigid Verbena

### ***Verbena* spp.**

#### **Verbena**

The plants listed here are evergreen perennials.

**Purpletop (*V. bonariensis*)** is a tall see-through plant that may reach from 4 - 6 ft. tall.

Lavender purple flower heads seem to float above the ground on stiff narrow stems. Foliage and stems have short, stiff, rough hairs. This species can be invasive in some gardens and landscapes. **Lilac verbena (*V. lilacina*)** is from Baja California, Mexico and grows into a loose mound of green divided leaves and stems. Plants flower year round although there are fewer in the middle of summer and winter. Flowers are lavender, are scented like carnations, and attract butterflies. 'De La Mina' has dark flowers and greener stems and foliage, 'Paseo Rancho' is paler all around.



Roger's Red Grape

### ***Vitis* spp. - Grape**

Deciduous woody vines that quickly bring the feeling of age into a garden. All have edible grapes, though some are much more palatable than others. 'Roger's Red' is an especially fast growing selection that displays vivid red fall color in all areas of Southern California. Effective on durable structures, and even on chain-link fencing. Do not allow the stems to grow through holes in fences or trellises because as the stems increase their girth, they will eventually either burst the structure or will be strangled by it.



Wynyabbie Gem  
Westringia

### ***Westringia fruticosa* - Westringia**

Evergreen shrub with especially attractive fine textured, grey-green foliage. Plants may reach from 3 to 6 ft. tall and are typically twice as wide. Plants need well-drained soils. The selection 'Wynyabbie Gem' is particularly desirable as it reaches 4 ft. tall and 5 ft. wide. Small pale lavender flowers appear at various times of the year, but are most noticeable in spring. 'Morning Light' has variegated foliage, white flowers, and is 3 ft. tall and wide.



Chinese Wisteria

Photo: Plants Express

### ***Wisteria* spp.\* - Wisteria**

Deciduous woody vines with sumptuous hanging racemes of lavender-blue to white flowers that carry a sweet scent in spring. Established plants are very drought-tolerant. Woody pods open explosively and shoot their seeds quite a distance. These plants are particularly outstanding when they are grown on trellises and arbors. Chinese wisteria (*W. sinensis*\*) is considered the most drought-tolerant of the species.



Route 66

California Fuchsia

### ***Zauschneria* spp. (also known as *Epilobium* spp.) - California fuchsia**

Evergreen to semi-evergreen perennials with either grey or green foliage. Flowers appear from summer to late fall, and are typically vibrant red in color (rarely white or pink). 'Catalina' has narrow grey leaves and grows 3 to 4 ft. tall and wide. 'Route 66' has green leaves and naturally produces densely branched growth and a profusion of blooms in late fall. It may reach 3 ft. tall and up to 4 to 5 ft. wide. 'Select Mattole' has broad silvery leaves and is typically less than 1 ft. tall and spreads up to 3 ft. wide.

## NOTES



RANCHO SANTA ANA  
BOTANIC GARDEN

