



RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN AT CLAREMONT

1500 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711-3157 • Phone 909-625-8767 • FAX 909-626-7670

The "California Classics" Plant Palette

The following plant lists represent the most reliable, garden worthy and relatively available native plants for southern California gardens and public landscapes. The plant groups — Oak Woodlands, Riparian Woodlands, Scrubland/Chaparral, Mojave Desert and Colorado Desert — are organized according to horticultural and ecological conditions.

Plant lists were primarily compiled by:

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and

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California's Botanic Garden—Preserving Our Native Plants



Planting and Care of Native Annuals

California wildflowers are easy to grow, hardy, and are a spectacular addition to the landscape. You can plant wildflowers in large drifts of single species, in colorful combinations of several varieties, or as spot accents sprinkled among shrubs and perennials.

When and Where to Plant

The best time to plant native annuals in California is in the autumn to take advantage of the early fall rains and to get seedlings established before the cold weather and possible heavy rains of the winter months. Late October through November is the best period for low to mid elevation areas in southern California. Those who garden in high elevations or extremely cold winter areas should wait until spring to sow seeds, or start plants in flats or pots, transplanting them outdoors once the soil begins to warm, and after the danger of frost is past.

Most native annuals require full sun to perform best, but a few do tolerate and often prefer a little protection in bright shade or morning sun. Most natives thrive on lean soils performing quite well without adding any organic matter or fertilizers. However, in especially heavy soils, incorporating organic matter will help prevent compaction, improving water penetration and root development. If you find your plants are growing slowly or are stunted in spite of good weather and adequate moisture, amending the soil may be necessary.

Preparing the Wildflower Beds

To prepare the planting bed, first clear away any debris and weeds. Dig the soil a shovel's depth to make it easier for the newly emerged seedlings to send their roots deep into the soil. Break up any large chunks of soil and remove large rocks. Rake the bed level, and smooth the soil with an iron rake. The bed is now ready for sowing.

Sowing/Planting the Beds

If one prefers, most native annuals can be successfully grown in flats or cell packs and

transplanted directly into the bed. It is important when using transplants that you set out your plants at a young stage before they fill the pot and become root-bound. Lupines and poppies generally do not respond well to having their roots disturbed, so extra care should be taken with their handling. Few of our native annuals require any pretreatment of seeds for germination. For some of the lupine species, pouring boiling water over the seeds and soaking for 24 hours prior to planting will enhance germination.

For large areas evenly scatter the seeds over the surface. For smaller areas, singly place seeds where desired. Extremely small seeds may be mixed with sand to make it easier to sow. Lightly rake the bed with an iron rake, teeth down. Follow this with a raking over the top with the flat side of the rake to cover any exposed seed.

Bed Maintenance

Although it is not necessary, we have found that a light top dressing will aid germination and give some protection from birds. Care should be taken to protect sown seeds and newly emerged seedlings from birds, rodents, snails, slugs, and pill bugs. Caging and bird netting may be useful until the plants get well established. Keep the bed as weed free as possible. Aggressive, exotic weeds can easily out-compete and quickly smother most native annuals.

As with germination of any other seed, keep the seed bed moist but not wet. As the seedlings emerge, cut back on the frequency of waterings. As the plants grow, watering schedules should decrease in frequency and increase in the amount of water applied—in other words, deeper watering to reach deeper root zone. Remember, native annuals are naturally drought tolerant and depending on the frequency of winter and spring rains, the beds may only require supplemental watering

Prepared by the Education Department,
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

PLANTING SEASON

The optimal time for planting all plants of the California Floristic Province is in late fall. Soils are still warm but are not too hot for tender new roots. The capillary movement of water is upward, toward the soil surface. The nights are cool, promoting less shoot growth and more root growth. The days are typically cooler, leading to less stress on new plantings. The overall cooler and moister conditions are less favorable to many of the soil pathogens that are much more likely to infect the broken or damaged root system that is inevitable during planting. In our particular area (inland Southern California) this means that late October to November is the beginning of the planting season.

- Annuals: plant seeds from late October to December
- Trees and Shrubs: plant from late October to the end of February
- Subshrubs and Perennials: plant from late October to late April
- Riparian plants of all sorts: plant at any time of the year, though best and easiest when planted from late October to the end of February



RIBES SPECIOSUM
FOR RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

REBECCA JO MORALES

From: *California Native Plant Gardens: Care and Maintenance*, Bart C. O'Brien, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Claremont, California. 2000.

Trees:

Aesculus californica – California Buckeye

Quercus agrifolia – Coast Live Oak

Quercus engelmannii – Mesa Oak

Shrubs:

Arctostaphylos bakeri ‘Louis Edmunds’ – Louis Edmunds Manzanita

Arctostaphylos ‘Howard McMinn’ – Howard McMinn Manzanita

Arctostaphylos ‘Sunset’ – Sunset Manzanita

Carpenteria californica – Bush Anemone

Ceanothus ‘Concha’ – Concha Ceanothus

Ceanothus ‘Ray Hartman’ – Ray Hartman Ceanothus

Ceanothus ‘Wheeler Canyon’ – Wheeler Canyon Ceanothus

Galvezia speciosa – Island Snapdragon

Heteromeles arbutifolia – Toyon

Mahonia (Berberis) ‘Golden Abundance’ – Golden Abundance Barberry

Prunus ilicifolia – Holly-leaf Cherry

Ribes malvaceum – Chaparral Currant

Rhamnus californica & cultivars – Coffeeberry

Rhamnus crocea – Redberry

Ribes speciosum – Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry

Symphoricarpos albus var. *laevigatus* ‘Tilden Park’ – Tilden Park Snowberry

Groundcovers:

Arctostaphylos edmundsii – Edmunds Manzanita

Baccharis pilularis var. *pilularis* – Prostrate Coyote Brush

Ceanothus griseus var. *horizontalis* – Carmel Creeper

Ceanothus ‘Joyce Coulter’ – Joyce Coulter Ceanothus

Mahonia (Berberis) repens – Creeping Barberry

Ribes viburnifolium – Catalina Perfume Currant

Symphoricarpos mollis – Creeping Snowberry

Perennials:

Achillea millefolium – Yarrow

Asclepias fascicularis – Narrow-leaf Milkweed

Heuchera maxima – Island Alumroot

Fragaria chiloensis – Beach Strawberry

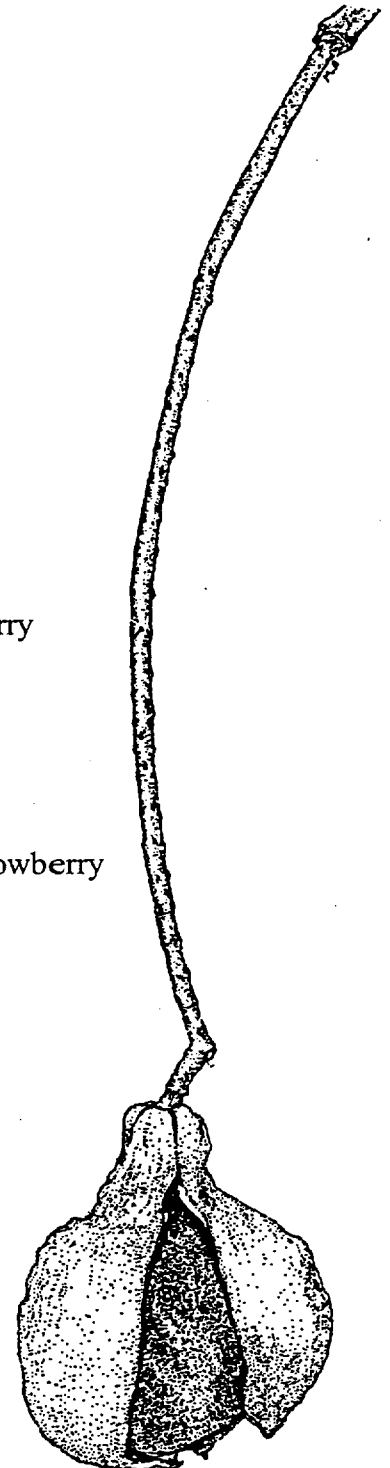
Monardella villosa – Coyote Mint

Ranunculus californica – California Buttercup

Salvia spathacea – Hummingbird Sage

Sisyrinchium bellum – Blue-eyed Grass

Thalictrum fendleri ssp. *polycarpum* – Meadow Rue



Aesculus californica
California Buckeye

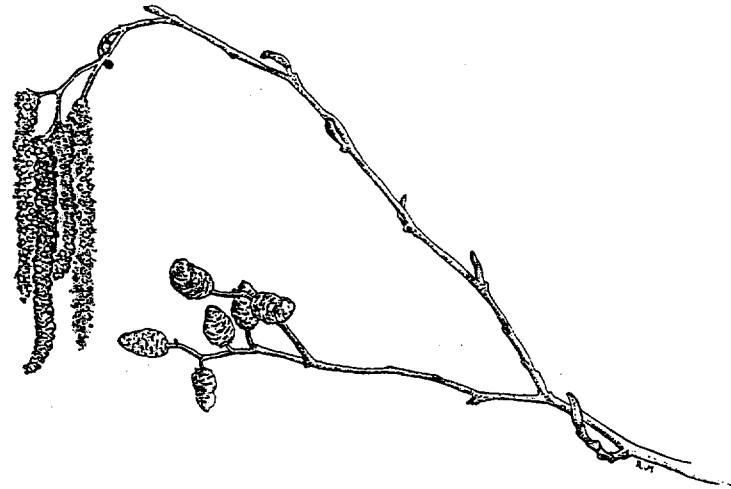
Rebecca Jo Morales

Trees:

- Alnus rhombifolia* – White Alder
- Platanus racemosa* – Western Sycamore
- Populus fremontii* – Fremont Cottonwood
- Quercus lobata* – Valley Oak
- Umbellularia californica* – California Bay

Shrubs:

- Calycanthus occidentalis* – Spice Bush
- Carpenteria californica* – Bush Anemone
- Cercis occidentalis* – Western Redbud
- Cornus sericea* – Creek Dogwood
- Lavatera assurgentiflora* – Malva Rosa
- Lavatera* ‘Purissima’ – Purissima Mallow
- Mahonia (Berberis)* ‘Golden Abundance’ – Golden Abundance Barberry
- Philadelphus lewisii* – Mock Orange
- Ribes speciosum* – Fuchsia Flowered Gooseberry
- Rosa californica* – California Rose
- Rosa nutkana* var. *nutkana* – Nootka Rose
- Rosa woodsii* var. *ultramontana* – Interior Rose



ALNUS RHOMBIFOLIA
FOR RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

REBECCA JO MORALES

Groundcovers:

- Ceanothus griseus* var. *horizontalis* & cultivars – Carmel Creeper
- Iva hayesiana* – Haye’s Iva
- Mahonia (Berberis) aquifolium* ‘Compacta’ – Compact Oregon Grape
- Mahonia (Berberis) repens* – Creeping Barberry
- Ribes viburnifolium* – Evergreen Currant

Perennials:

- Aquilegia formosa* – Western Columbine
- Asclepias speciosa* – Showy Milkweed
- Heuchera* species & cultivars – Coral Bells
- Iris douglasiana* & cultivars – Pacific Coast Iris
- Juncus patens* – Wire Grass
- Muhlenbergia rigens* – Deer Grass
- Thalictrum fendleri* ssp. *polycarpum* – Meadow Rue
- Woodwardia fimbriata* – Giant Chain Fern

Vine:

- Vitis californica* ‘Roger’s Red’ – Roger’s Red California Grape

Tree:

Sambucus mexicana – Elderberry

Shrubs:

Arctostaphylos bakeri ‘Louis Edmunds’ – Louis Edmunds Manzanita

Arctostaphylos glauca – Bigberry Manzanita

Artemisia californica ‘Montara’ – Montara California Sagebrush

Ceanothus ‘Concha’ – Concha Ceanothus

Ceanothus leucodermis – Chaparral Whitethorn Ceanothus

Ceanothus ‘Sierra Blue’ – Sierra Blue Ceanothus

Cercocarpus betuloides – Mountain Mahogany

Dendromecon harfordii – Island Bush Poppy

Encelia californica – California Sunflower

Encelia farinosa – Incienso

Eriogonum cinereum – Ashyleaf Buckwheat

Eriogonum fasciculatum – California Buckwheat

Eriogonum giganteum – Saint Catherine’s Lace

Heteromeles arbutifolia – Toyon

Isomeris arborea – Bladderpod

Mahonia (Berberis) nevinii – Nevin’s Barberry

Rhus ovata – Sugar Bush

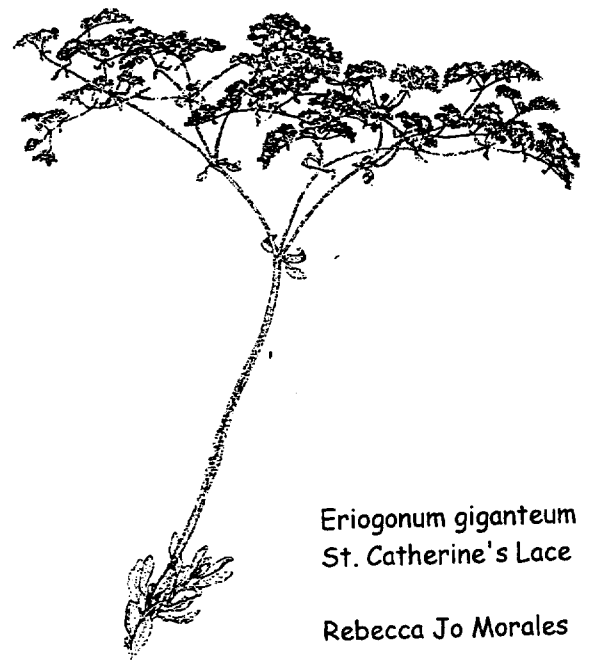
Salvia apiana – White Sage

Salvia clevelandii & cultivars – Cleveland Sage

Salvia leucophylla – Purple Sage

Salvia mellifera – Black Sage

Yucca whipplei – Our Lord’s Candle



Eriogonum giganteum
St. Catherine’s Lace

Rebecca Jo Morales

Vine:

Calystegia macrostegia ‘Anacapa Pink’ – Anacapa Pink Morning Glory

Groundcovers & Bank Plants:

Arctostaphylos hookeri – Hooker Manzanita

Arctostaphylos edmundsii – Edmunds Manzanita

Artemisia californica ‘Canyon Gray’ – Prostrate California Sagebrush

Eriogonum fasciculatum cultivars – Prostrate California Buckwheat

Iva hayesiana – Haye’s Iva

Romneya coulteri – Matilija Poppy

Salvia ‘Bee’s Bliss’ – Bee’s Bliss Sage

Salvia ‘Dara’s Choice’ – Dara’s Choice Sage

Salvia mellifera ‘Terra Seca’ – Prostrate Black Sage

Perennials:

Artemisia pycnocephala 'Davids' Choice' – Davids' Choice Sandhill Sage

Asclepias fascicularis – Narrow-leaf Milkweed

Erigeron 'W. R.' – Wayne Roderick's Daisy

Eriogonum crocatum – Sulphur Buckwheat

Eriogonum grande var. *rubescens* – Red Buckwheat

Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince' – Canyon Prince Wild Ryegrass

Mimulus (*Diplacus*) species & cultivars – Shrubby Monkeyflower

Zauschneria (*Epilobium*) species & cultivars– California Fuchsia



ASCLEPIAS FASCICULARIS
FOR RANCHO SANTA ANA
BOTANIC GARDEN

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Trees:

Pinus monophylla – Single-needle Pinyon

Yucca brevifolia – Joshua Tree

Shrubs:

Agave utahensis – Utah Agave

Artemisia tridentata ssp. *parishii* – Parish's Great Basin Sagebrush

Chrysothamnus nauseosus – Rabbit Brush

Ephedra nevadensis – Mormon Tea

Fallugia paradoxa – Apache Plume

Juniperus californica – California Juniper

Larrea tridentata – Creosote Bush

Mahonia (Berberis) fremontii (Mahonia (Berberis) higginsiae) – Desert Barberry

Nolina bigelovii – Beargrass

Nolina parryi – Beargrass

Opuntia basilaris – Beavertail Cactus

Salvia dorrii – Purple Sage

Yucca baccata – Banana Yucca

Yucca schidigera – Mojave Yucca

Vine:

Vitis girdiana – Desert Grape

Perennials:

Achnatherum hymenoides – Indian Ricegrass

Achnatherum speciosum – Desert Needlegrass

Mirabilis multiflora – Four O'Clock

Oenothera californica – Evening Primrose

Sphaeralcea ambigua – Desert Mallow

Sporobolus airoides – Alkali Sacatoot



FALLUGIA PARADOXA
FOR RANCHO SANTA ANA
BOTANIC GARDEN

REBECCA JO MORALES

Trees:

Cercidium floridum – Palo Verde

Chilopsis linearis & cultivars – Desert Willow

XParkinsidium 'Desert Museum' – Desert Museum Palo Verde

Washingtonia filifera – California Fan Palm

Shrubs:

Abutilon palmeri – Indian Mallow

Agave deserti – Desert Agave

Calliandra eriophylla – Fairy Duster

Encelia farinosa – Incienso

Ferocactus cylindraceus – California Barrel Cactus

Fouquieria splendens – Ocotillo

Larrea tridentata – Creosote Bush

Hyptis emoryi – Desert Lavender

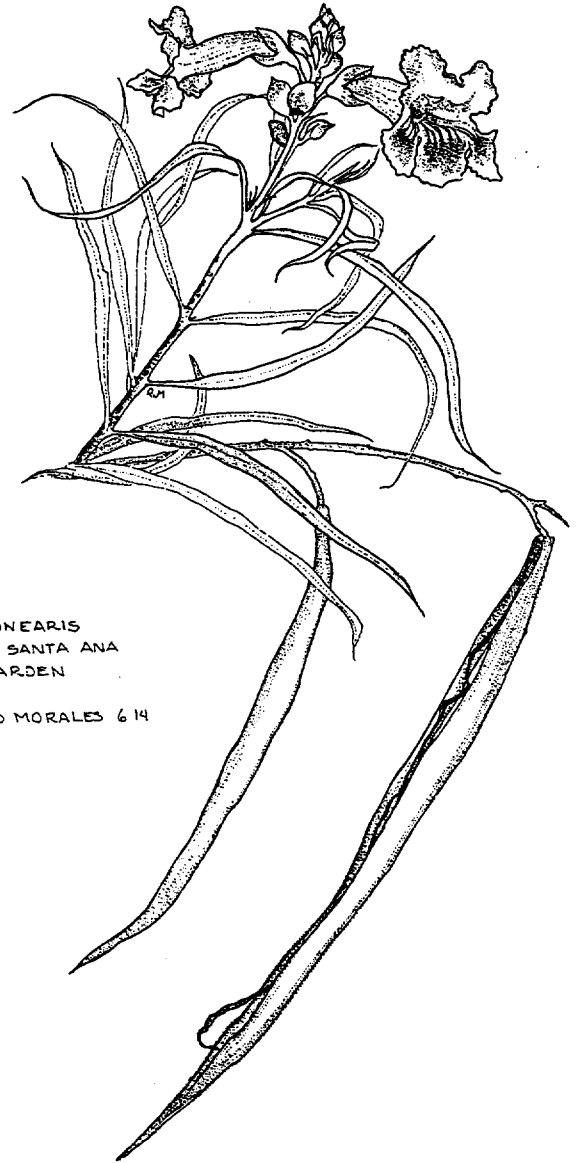
Justicia californica – Chuparosa

Opuntia basilaris – Beavertail Cactus

Simmondsia chinensis – Jojoba

Vine:

Vitis girdiana – Desert Grape



CHILOPSIS LINEARIS
FOR RANCHO SANTA ANA
BOTANIC GARDEN

REBECCA JO MORALES 6 14