

Invasive Horticultural Plants of California and Recommended Alternatives

Nineteen plants have been identified as invasive by the steering committee for the PlantRight campaign. The steering committee identified numerous, alternative plants that are commercially available and safe for the environment. Please choose the non-invasive alternatives to beautify your garden while protecting California's wildlands and wildlife.



- South Coast
- Desert
- Central Valley
- Sierra & Coastal Mountains
- North & Central Coast

INVASIVE PLANT	Areas Where Invasive	RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES	Areas Where Recommended
Arundo / Giant Reed <i>Arundo donax</i>	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Clumping bamboos (e.g. <i>Bambusa multiplex</i> , <i>B. oldhamii</i> , <i>Fargesia nitida</i>) New Zealand flax (<i>Phormium tenax</i>)	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Blue Gum Eucalyptus <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Bald cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>) Fernleaf Catalina ironwood (<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus asplenifolius</i>) Non-invasive eucalyptus (<i>Eucalyptus</i> species)	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast
Brooms Bridal veil (<i>Retama monosperma</i>) French (<i>Genista monspessulana</i>) Portugese / striated (<i>Cytisus striatus</i>) Scotch (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) Spanish (<i>Spartium junceum</i>)	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Forsythia (<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>) Shrubby cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>) Yellow bush daisy (<i>Euryops pectinatus</i>)	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Capweed (fertile and infertile) <i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	North & Central Coast	African daisy (<i>Arctotis hybrids</i>) Dymondia (<i>Dymondia margaretae</i>) Manzanita groundcovers (<i>Arctostaphylos edmundsii</i> , A. 'Emerald Carpet')	North & Central Coast
Chinese Tallow Tree <i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Central Valley	Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>) American sweet gum / liquidambar (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>) Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i> 'October Glory')	Central Valley
Green Fountain Grass <i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	South Coast, Desert, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Blue oat grass (<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>) Deer grass (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Sedge (<i>Carex</i> species)	South Coast, Desert, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Iceplants highway (<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>) crystalline (<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast	Beach strawberry / woody strawberry (<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i> or <i>F. vesca</i>) Myoporum groundcover (<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i> 'Prostratum') Non-invasive iceplant (<i>Delosperma cooperi</i>)	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Jubata Grass <i>Cortaderia jubata</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Giant rye (<i>Leymus condensatus</i> 'Canyon Prince') Deer Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Pink Muhly Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast
Myoporum <i>Myoporum laetum</i>	South Coast, North & Central Coast	Griselinia (<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>) Sweet bay (<i>Laurus nobilis</i>) Toyon / Christmas berry / California holly (<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast
Pampas Grass <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Giant rye (<i>Leymus condensatus</i> 'Canyon Prince') Deer Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Pink Muhly Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast
Periwinkle <i>Vinca major</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Hardy geranium (<i>Geranium</i> 'Rozanne') Star jasmine (<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>) Sweet box groundcover (<i>Sarcococca hookerana humilis</i>) Serbian bellflower (<i>Campanula poscharskyana</i>)	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Russian Olive <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Desert, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Arizona cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>) Fruitless olive (<i>Olea europaea</i> 'Swan Hill', 'Majestic Beauty', 'Little Ollie', 'Wilsoni')	Desert, Central Valley, North & Central Coast
Saltcedar <i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Australian willow / geijera (<i>Geijera parviflora</i>) Western redbud (<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>) Desert willow/ Desert catalpa (<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>)	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Scarlet Wisteria <i>Sesbania punicea</i>	Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Brazilian flame bush (<i>Calliandra tweedii</i>) Crape myrtle (<i>Lagerstroemia</i> species) Gold medallion tree (<i>Cassia leptophylla</i>) Serbian bellflower (<i>Campanula poscharskyana</i>)	Central Valley, North & Central Coast

Invasive Horticultural Plants of California

			
<p>Arundo/Giant Reed (<i>Arundo donax</i>) Poaceae Family</p>	<p>Capeweed (<i>Arctotheca calendula</i>) Asteraceae Family</p>	<p>Highway Iceplant (<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>) Aizoaceae Family</p>	<p>Pampas Grass (<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>) Poaceae Family</p>
			
<p>Jubata Grass (<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>) Poaceae Family</p>	<p>Scotch Broom (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) Fabaceae Family</p>	<p>Portugese / Striated Broom (<i>Cytisus striatus</i>) Fabaceae Family</p>	<p>Russian Olive (<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>) Elaeagnaceae Family</p>
			
<p>Blue Gum Eucalyptus (<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>) Myrtaceae Family</p>	<p>French Broom (<i>Genista monspessulana</i>) Fabaceae Family</p>	<p>Crystalline Iceplant (<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>) Aizoaceae Family</p>	<p>Myoporum / Ngaio Tree (<i>Myoporum laetum</i>) Myoporaceae Family</p>
			
<p>Green Fountain Grass (<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>) Poaceae Family</p>	<p>Bridal Veil Broom (<i>Retama monosperma</i>) Fabaceae Family</p>	<p>Chinese Tallow Tree (<i>Triadica sebifera</i>) Euphorbiaceae Family</p>	<p>Scarlet Wisteria (<i>Sesbania punicea</i>) Fabaceae Family</p>
			 <p>PLANT RIGHT KEEP INVASIVE PLANTS IN CHECK</p>
<p>Spanish Broom (<i>Spartium junceum</i>) Fabaceae Family</p>	<p>Saltcedar (<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>) Tamaricaceae Family</p>	<p>Periwinkle (<i>Vinca major</i>) Apocynaceae Family</p>	