



Recommended Plants for Sonoma County

The selection of plants on this list is not intended to be exhaustive. There are many more plants that can be—and are—grown successfully in Sonoma County. The selected plants are likely to be the most successful. Our 30 very favorites, which we call the Sonoma Superstars, are marked with a star in the left margin.

See our glossary of plant list descriptors at [http address] for explanations of these descriptors.

- ★ = Sonoma Superstars
- s = small
- m = medium
- g = large
- H = high water
- M = moderate water
- L = low water
- V = very low water
- S = full sun
- A = afternoon shade
- P = part shade
- F = full shade
- N = CA native
- W = wildlife habitat
- B = beneficial insects
- E = evergreen
- D = deer resistant
- C = erosion control
- T = frost tender
- X = poisonous
- 1 = for ground covers
- 2 = for dry shade
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Trees

Aesculus californica (California buckeye)	g	V	S	N	W	B	D	X						
<i>Loses leaves in early summer, but occasional summer water will keep in leaf until fall. Poisonous to honeybees.</i>														
Arbutus unedo (strawberry tree)	s	m	L	S	A	P	W	B	E	D	2	3	4	
<i>When mature, prune lower branches to expose multiple branches and peeling bark. Can be grown as large shrub or small tree.</i>														
★ Cercis occidentalis (western redbud)	s		V	S	A	P	N	W	D	C	2	3	4	
<i>Can be grown as a large shrub or small tree. Remove dead or twiggy branches. Clean up seed pods as they drop.</i>														
Chionanthus retusus (Chinese fringe tree)	m	M	S	A	P	W								
Chitalpa tashkentensis (chitalpa)	m	L	S										4	
<i>Choose 'Pink Dawn' or white blooming 'Morning Cloud' for summer blooms.</i>														
Citrus spp	s	m	g	M	S	A	P	B	E	D	T			
<i>Dwarf varieties are suitable for containers or patios</i>														
Cornus capitata (evergreen or Himalayan dogwood)	m	g	M	S	A	P	E							
<i>'Mountain Moon' is recommended.</i>														
Cornus nuttallii (Pacific dogwood)	g	M	A	P	F	N	B	C						
<i>Dislikes excessive watering, fertilizing and pruning. Susceptible to anthracnose.</i>														
Cotinus coggygria (smoke tree)	s	L	S	A	P	D							4	
<i>Can be grown as large shrub or small tree. Can be pruned to control size and shape. Excellent fall color.</i>														
Crataegus phaenopyrum (Washington thorn, Washington haw)	m	M	S	W	D								3	
<i>Once established tolerates infrequent watering.</i>														
Diospyros kaki (Japanese persimmon)	m	L	S										4	
<i>Beautiful fall foliage.</i>														
Feijoa [Acacia] sellowiana (pineapple guava)	s	M	L	S	B	E	D							
<i>Will tolerate little or no irrigation. Can be grown as large shrub or small tree.</i>														
Ficus carica (edible fig)	m	M	S	W	D								3	
Koelreuteria bipinnata (Chinese flame tree)	m	M	S											
<i>Moderate to fast growing. Drought tolerant once established. Yellow blooms in summer.</i>														
★ Lagerstroemia indica (crape myrtle)	s	m	L	S	D								4	
<i>Select plant in bloom. Many colors available. Decorative bark.</i>														
Laurus nobilis (sweet bay)	m	L	S	A	P	E							2	4
<i>Grows as shrub or small tree. Leaves can be used in cooking.</i>														

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Luma apiculata (Chilean myrtle) <i>Beautiful bark. Good hedge or screen or specimen plant. Can be grown as large shrub or small tree.</i>	s	M	S A P		E D				3
Lyonothamnus floribundus ssp aspleniifolius (Catalina ironwood) <i>Flowers persist; must be removed manually.</i>	g	L	S A P	N W	E D T				2 4
Magnolia x soulangeana (saucer magnolia) <i>Clean up litter as leaves drop in fall.</i>	m	M	S A P		D				
Myrica [Morella] californica (Pacific wax myrtle) <i>Good hedge or screen. Birds are attracted to berries.</i>	g	M	S A P	N W	E D				
Olea europaea 'Swan Hill' (olive) <i>Non-fruiting variety.</i>	m		V S		E D				
★ Pistacia chinensis (Chinese pistache) <i>Fall color bright orange/red. Plant named male cultivars only.</i>	m	L	S		D				4
Platanus racemosa (California or western sycamore) <i>Suitable only for large gardens. Clean up litter as leaves drop in fall.</i>	g	M	S	N W	D				
Quercus agrifolia (coast live oak) <i>Suitable only for large gardens.</i>	g		V S	N W B E	D				
Quercus douglasii (blue oak) <i>Suitable only for large gardens.</i>	g		V S	N W B	D				
Quercus kelloggii (black oak)	g	L	S A P	N W B	D				2
Quercus lobata (valley oak) <i>Suitable only for large gardens.</i>	g	L	S	N W B	D				
Quercus suber (cork oak)	g	L	S		E D				
Raphiolepis 'Majestic Beauty' (majestic beauty raphiolepis) <i>Large shrub that can be trained as a single- or multi-trunked tree.</i>	s		L S A P		E				4
★ Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese evergreen elm) <i>Striking bark texture. Semi-evergreen. Named cultivars vary in height, leaf size, and habit.</i>	g	L	S						4
Vitex agnus-castus (chaste tree) <i>May be grown as shrub or small tree. Dormant for 6 months of the year. Blooms in mid-summer.</i>	s		L S		B				3 4

Shrubs

Abelia x grandiflora (glossy abelia) <i>Prune selectively to maintain graceful arching shape. Compact and dwarf cultivars are available.</i>	s m g	M	S A P		E				3
★ Arctostaphylos spp (manzanita) <i>Plants vary from creeping groundcovers to treelike shrubs. A. densiflora 'Howard McMinn' is one of the most garden tolerant manzanitas and is native to Sonoma County. Remove dead or twiggy branches.</i>	s m g	L	S A P	N W B E D C					1 2 3 4
Artemisia spp (sagebrush) <i>Woody perennials vary from prostrate to mounding. Prune to maintain shape and rejuvenate. Avoid planting 'Valerie Finiss' and 'Silver King' which may spread too vigorously.</i>	s m	L V	S		E D C				3 4
Artemisia californica (California sagebrush) <i>'Canyon Gray' and 'Montara' are superior selections.</i>	m	L	S	N W	E D C				
★ Berberis thunbergii and cvs (barberrry) <i>Some species are deciduous. Many cultivars have attractive foliage colors such as lime green and burgundy. Dwarf varieties available. Remove dead or twiggy branches.</i>	s m g	M	S A P	W	D C X				3

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Buddleia davidii (butterfly bush) <i>Prune to 4"-6" from ground in early spring to encourage bloom and control shape. Select named cultivars for size and blossom color. Can be invasive.</i>	m g	M	S A P	B	D				
Buxus spp (boxwood) <i>English boxwood (B.sempervirens) is sensitive to sunburn and drought; Japanese boxwood (B.microphylla japonica) is more resilient and in complete shade survives with no supplemental water.</i>	s m	M	S A P F	E	D	X	3		
Callistemon spp (bottle brush) <i>Red, pink, or yellow bristly flower clusters resemble bottle brushes. Varies from 3' dwarf to tree size. Do not prune into bare wood. Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s g	L	S A P	W	E	D	3 4		
Caryopteris spp (bluebeard) <i>Cut just above ground in early spring.</i>	m	M	S A P	W	B	D			
★ Ceanothus spp and cvs (California lilac) <i>The most drought tolerant and deer resistant have small, dark green, crinkly leaves. Those with larger glossy foliage benefit from summer irrigation and shade inland. Remove dead or twiggy branches.</i>	m g	M L	S A P	N	W	B	E	D	C
Ceratostigma griffithii (burmese plumbago) <i>Clear blue flowers in summer; red foliage in fall. Deciduous stems turn brown in winter.</i>	m	L	S A P	W	D		4		
Chaenomeles spp (flowering quince)	m g	L	S A P	W	D		4		
★ Choisya ternata (Mexican mock orange) <i>Full shade in hottest locations.</i>	m	M	A P F	W	E	D			
Cistus spp (rock rose) <i>Needs good drainage. Tolerates poor soil and neglect. Remove dead interior branches; replace woody plants after several years.</i>	s m	L	S		E	D	3 4		
Cordyline australis cvs (dracaena palm) <i>Slow growing. Wide variety of showy cultivars available.</i>	m	L	S A P		E	D			
★ Correa spp (Australian fuschia) <i>May be hedged.</i>	s m	L	S A P	W	B	E	D	2 3 4	
Cotinus coggygria (smoke tree) <i>Can be grown as large shrub or small tree. Can be pruned to control size and shape. Excellent fall color.</i>	g	L	S A P		D				
Daphne spp (daphne) <i>Extremely fragrant flowers. D. odora is low water use; may be finicky. All need excellent drainage. Compact forms available.</i>	s m	M L	A P		E	D	X	3 4	
Dendromecon harfordii (island bush poppy) <i>Needs excellent drainage</i>	g	L	S	N	B	E	D	C	
Dendromecon rigida (bush poppy)	m	V	S	N	B	E	D	C	
Dodonaea viscosa (hop bush) <i>Can be pruned to control size and shape. Good screen or hedge. 'Purpurea' is purple form.</i>	g	L	S A P		E	D	T	4	
Elaeagnus pungens (silverberry) <i>Tough plant; withstands harsh conditions. Good screen or hedge.</i>	g	L	S A P		E	D	2	4	
Encelia californica (coast sunflower) <i>Will drop leaves if no summer irrigation.</i>	s	L	S	N	B	E	C	T	3
Erica spp (heath) <i>Prefer acid soil with organic content. Require good drainage. Some frost tender.</i>	s m	M	S A P		E	D	3		

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Eriogonum giganteum (St. Catherine's lace) <i>Excellent native habitat plant. Best with some summer water.</i>	m g	V	S	N	W	B	E	D	C	T					
Escallonia spp (escallonia) <i>Good hedge or screen. Long summer bloom. In hard freeze can die back, but recovers. 'Kompakta' is a dwarf variety.</i>	s m g	M	S	A	P			E	D		3				
Euonymus japonicus (evergreen euonymus) <i>Many cultivars available.</i>	m g	L	S	A	P			E		X	2 3 4				
Feijoa [Acca] sellowiana (pineapple guava) <i>Will tolerate little or no irrigation. Can be grown as large shrub or small tree.</i>	g	M L	S					B	E	D					
Fremontodendron spp (flannel bush) <i>Foliage can be very irritating to the skin. Young plants require staking.</i>	g	V	S			N		E	D						
Garrya elliptica (coast silk-tassel) <i>Has dramatic winter catkins. Can be pruned to control size and shape. For large gardens only.</i>	g	L	S	A	P	N	W	E	D		2				
Grevillea spp (grevillea) <i>Huge variation in size and form. Needle-leaved species are deer-proof. Avoid phosphorus fertilizers. Remove rangy growth.</i>	s m g	L	S	A	P	W		E	D	C	3 4				
Hebe spp (hebe) <i>Many varieties. Good as accent plants or small hedges. Remove woody interior stems.</i>	s m	M	S	A	P			B	E		3				
Helianthemum nummularium (sunrose)	s	L	S					B	E	D	C	3 4			
★ Heteromeles arbutifolia (toyon, California holly) <i>Excellent fall/winter interest. Usually grown as a shrub but can reach tree size.</i>	m g	L	S	A	P	N	W	B	E	D	C	X	2	4	
Holodiscus discolor (cream bush, ocean spray)	g	L	S	A	P	N	W	B		D			2		
★ Hydrangea quercifolia (oak leaf hydrangea) <i>Tolerates dry conditions. Great fall color. Prune immediately after bloom. Dwarf cultivars available.</i>	m g	M	S	A	P							X	2	3	
Lantana spp <i>Long blooming. Repetitive shearing promotes woody interiors. Thin out in late winter or early spring.</i>	m	L	S					B	E	D	C	T	X	4	
Lavandula spp (lavender) <i>Many varieties of varying sizes. Shear annually to green buds near woody base.</i>	s	L	S					B	E	D				3 4	
Lavatera [Malva] assurgentiflora (tree or island or mission ma) <i>Shear to keep dense.</i>	g	L	S	A	P	N	W	B	E	D		T			
Lavatera maritima (bush mallow)	g	L	S	A	P	W		B	E	D		T	4		
Leonotis leonurus (lion's tail) <i>Cut back rangy stems to new growth in spring. Tends to be short-lived.</i>	m	L	S			W		B	E	D			4		
Lepechinia spp (pitcher sage)	m	L	S	A	P	N	W	B	E	D					
Lonicera nitida (box honeysuckle) <i>Drought tolerant once established. Can be sheared into hedge. Can be invasive.</i>	m	L	S	A	P			E		C			2	4	
★ Loropetalum chinense (fringe flower) <i>Burgundy-leaved cultivars make wonderful specimen plants. New dwarf varieties available. Remove dead interior branches.</i>	s g	L	S	A	P			E					2	3	4
Luma apiculata (Chilean myrtle) <i>Beautiful bark. Good hedge or screen or specimen plant. Can be grown as large shrub or small tree.</i>	g	M	S	A	P			E	D				3		

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Lupinus albifrons (silver bush lupine)	m	V	S	N	B	E	D		4							
Mimulus [Diplacus] aurantiacus and hybrids (sticky monkey flower) <i>Woody-based perennial. Thin out twiggy growth; cut back annually to emerging buds on woody base.</i>	s	L	V	S	A	P	N	B	E	D	C	3	4			
Myrsine africana (African boxwood) <i>Useful hedge in hot dry climates</i>	m	g	L	S	A	P		E	D			2	3	4		
Myrtus communis (common myrtle) <i>Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s	g	L	S	A	P		E	D			3	4			
★ Nandina domestica & cvs (heavenly bamboo) <i>Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s	m	g	M	L	S	A	P	F		E	D	X	2	3	4
Olea europaea 'Little Ollie' (dwarf fruitless olive)	g		V	S	A	P		E	D					4		
Osmanthus heterophyllus (hollyleaf osmanthus)	s	m	g	M		P		E	D					3		
Philadelphus spp (mock orange) <i>Remove dead interior branches.</i>	m	g	M	L	S	A	P		B							
Philadelphus lewisii (wild mock orange, western mock orange) <i>Remove dead interior branches.</i>	g		M	S	A	P	N	B		C						
Phlomis spp (Jerusalem sage)	s	m		M	L	S	A	P		W	E	D				
Phormium hybrids (New Zealand flax) <i>Needs good drainage. Very attractive to gophers and voles. Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s	m	g		L	S	A	P		W	E	D		2	4	
Physocarpus capitatus (Pacific ninebark) <i>Needs part shade in inland areas.</i>	g		L	S	A	P	N	W		D				2	4	
Pinus mugo (mugo pine) <i>To ensure small size, plant named cultivars only.</i>	s	m		L	S					E	D			3		
Pittosporum tenuifolium (black stem pittosporum) <i>Excellent as a hedge. Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s	m	g	M		S				E		X		3		
Pittosporum tobira (mock orange) <i>Dwarf and variegated varieties available.</i>	s	m	g	L	S	A	P		B	E		X		3	4	
Prunus caroliniana (Carolina laurel cherry) <i>Tolerates shearing.</i>	g		L	S	A	P		E	C	X				4		
Prunus ilicifolia (holly leaf cherry)	g		L	S	A	P	N	W	B	E	D	C	X	4		
Prunus ilicifolia lyonii (Catalina cherry)	g		L	S	A	P	N	W	B	E	D		X			
Punica granatum (pomegranate) <i>Dwarf version available for smaller gardens.</i>	s	m	g	L	S	A	P		B					3	4	
★ Rhamnus [Frangula] californica (coffeeberry)	m	g	L	S	A	P	N	W	B	E	D	C		2	4	
Rhamnus alaternus (Italian buckthorn) <i>Plant named cultivars only. For large gardens only.</i>	g		L	S						E	D	C		4		
Rhaphiolepis indica (Indian hawthorn) <i>Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s	m		L	S	A	P			E				4		
Rhus integrifolia (lemonade berry) <i>Can be frost-tender inland.</i>	g		L	S	A	P	N	W	E	D	C			4		
Rhus ovata (sugar bush)	g		L	S	A	P	N	W	E	D	C			4		
★ Ribes spp (currant or gooseberry) <i>Thornless species are called currants; thorned species are called gooseberries.</i>	m	g	M	L	V	S	A	P	F	N	W		D	C	2	4
Rosmarinus officinalis (rosemary) <i>Varies from groundcover to upright or trailing shrubs.</i>	s	m		L	S	A	P		W	B	E	D	C	1	3	4
Salvia greggii & hybrids (autumn sage)	s	m		L	S	A	P		W	B		D	T	3	4	
Sambucus spp (elderberry) <i>Plant more than one variety or species for best fruiting. Raw fruit is poisonous to humans.</i>	g		L	S	A	P	N	W	B		D	C	X	4		
★ Sarcococca ruscifolia (sweet box)	m		L			P	F			E	D			2	4	

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Sollya heterophylla (Australian bluebell creeper) <i>Can also grow as a vine.</i>	m	L	S A P		E D C T	4
Spiraea spp (spiraea, bridal wreath) <i>Dwarf cultivars are available.</i>	s m g	M	S A P		W B	3
Styrax redivivus (snowbell bush, California styrax)	m	L	S A P	N W		2
Symphoricarpos albus (snowberry) <i>Named cultivars are less likely to spread.</i>	s m	L	P	N W B	D C X	2
Syringa vulgaris (lilac) <i>Remove old stems at ground level.</i>	m g	L	S		W B D	4
Teucrium fruticans (bush germander) <i>Dwarf varieties available.</i>	s m g	L	S		B E D C	4
Viburnum spp (viburnum) <i>Many have striking fall color and dramatic spring bloom. V. davidii and V. tinus 'Spring Bouquet' are recommended.</i>	m g	M L	S A P		D	
Vitex agnus-castus (chaste tree) <i>May be grown as shrub or small tree. Dormant for 6 months of the year. Blooms in mid-summer.</i>	g	L	S		B	4
Westringia spp (coast rosemary) <i>Can be frost tender before established.</i>	m	L	S		E D	4

Ground Covers

★ Arctostaphylos uva-ursi and cvs (kinnikinnick) <i>Prostrate, spreading and rooting as it grows. Slow to establish. Recommended varieties are 'Radiant' and 'Point Reyes'. 'Point Reyes' is more tolerant of heat and drought. Remove dead or twiggy interior branches.</i>	s m g	L	S A P	N W B E	D C	1 2 4
Artemisia pycnocephala 'David's Choice' (sandhill sage) <i>A particularly fine cultivar of this Sonoma County native. Short-lived; replace every 2 or 3 years.</i>	s		V S	N W B E	D C	3
Baccharis pilularis cvs (dwarf coyote brush) <i>'Pigeon Point' and 'Twin Peaks' are recommended varieties. Shear in early spring before new growth appears. Cut out old arching branches.</i>	s m	L	S A P	N W B E	D C	1 2 4
★ Ceanothus spp and cvs (California lilac) <i>The most drought tolerant and deer resistant have small, dark green, crinkly leaves. C. griseus 'Yankee Point' is a superior form; 'Diamond Heights' is lime green and variegated. Neither of these is deer resistant. Remove dead or twiggy branches.</i>	m g	M L	S A P	N W B E	D C	1 4
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides (dwarf plumbago) <i>Spreads by underground runners. Generally dies back in winter.</i>	s m g	L	S A P	W	D	1 2 4
Chamaemelum nobile (chamomile) <i>Sheer as a lawn substitute; 'Treneague' requires no mowing.</i>	s	L	S A P	W	E D	1 3 4
Cotoneaster dammeri cvs <i>Superior groundcover forms include 'Lowfast' and 'Coral Beauty'.</i>	m g	L	S	W	E D C X	1 4
★ Dymondia margaretae (dymondia) <i>Excellent walk-on lawn substitute.</i>	s	L	S A P F		E D	1 2 3 4
Euonymus fortunei (winter creeper) <i>Many cultivars available.</i>	m g	M	S A P		E C X	1 3
Grevillea lanigera 'Coastal Gem' (grevillea 'Coastal Gem') <i>Avoid phosphorus fertilizers.</i>	m	L	S A P	W	E D	1 2 4
Grindelia stricta [G. arenicola] (Pacific grindelia, gumplant)	s	L	S A P	N	B E D T	1 3 4
Lupinus albifrons collinus (prostrate lupine)	s		V S	N	B E D C	1 3 4

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Mahonia repens [Berberis aquifolium var repens] (Oregon grape)	s m	L	S A P	N W	E D C	1 2 3 4
<i>Needs part shade in hottest locations.</i>						
Myoporum parvifolium (prostrate myoporum)	m g	L	S		E D C T	1 4
Ophiopogon japonicus nanus (dwarf mondo grass)	s	M	A P F		E D C	1 3
<i>Full sun only in coastal regions.</i>						
Ribes viburnifolium (evergreen currant, Catalina perfume)	m	L	P F	N W	D C	2 3 4
Rosmarinus officinalis Prostratusø (prostrate rosemary)	g	L	S	W B E	D C	1 4
Rubus calycinoides (trailing thimbleberry)	m	M	S A P	W	E D C	1 2 3
<i>Requires little water in shade.</i>						
Salvia Bee's Blissø (bee's bliss sage)	m	L	S	N W B E	D C	1 4
Salvia spathacea (hummingbird sage)	m	L	A P	N W B	D C	1 2 4
Satureja [Clinopodium] douglasii (yerba buena)	s	L	P F	N W B E	D C	1 2 3 4
Tanacetum densum ssp amani (partridge feather)	s	L	S A P		E D	3
Teucrium cossonii majoricum (Majorcan germander)	s	V	S		B E D	1 3 4
★ Thymus praecox (creeping thyme)	s	L	S A P		B E D	1 4
<i>Excellent as a walkable groundcover.</i>						
★ Verbena spp (verbena)	s	M L	S		B E D	1 3 4

Vines

Aristolochia californica (California pipe vine)	g	L	P F	N W	D	2 4
<i>Slow to establish. Pipe vine swallowtail butterfly larva feeds solely on Aristolochia.</i>						
Clematis spp	s m g	M	S A P		X	3
<i>Plant in sun but provide shade for roots. Some can be rampant. Some are evergreen. Small varieties are available.</i>						
Clematis lasiantha (pipestem clematis)	m g	L	S A P	N B	D X	2 3 4
Hardenbergia violacea (lilac vine)	g	M	S A P		E D	3
<i>Provide drainage in heavy clay soil.</i>						
Lonicera hispidula (western or California honeysuckle)	m	L	S A P F	N W B	C	1 2 3 4
<i>Can be grown as a ground cover,</i>						
Trachelospermum jasminoides (star jasmine)	g	M	S A P		E C	1
<i>Can be used as a ground cover.</i>						

Perennials

★ Achillea spp & hybrids (yarrow)	s m	M L	S A P		B D	3
<i>Flowers in a wide range of colors. Named varieties vary in height, color, and vigor.</i>						
Achillea filipendulina 'Coronation Gold' (fernleaf yarrow)	m	L	S		B D	3 4
Achillea millefolium, native CA cvs (yarrow)	s	L	S A P	N B	D C X	3 4
<i>A very important plant for native bees and beneficial insects.</i>						
Agastache spp (hyssop)	m	M L	S A P	W B	D	3
<i>Dependable, summer blooming plants with fragrant foliage. Plants rebloom if deadheaded.</i>						
Agastache rupestris (licorice mint)	m	L	S A P	W B	D	3 4
<i>Narrow fragrant grey green leaves with spikes of orange flowers. Outstanding garden performance.</i>						
Anigozanthos spp (kangaroo paw)	s m g	L	S	W E	T	3 4
<i>Dwarf varieties available. Bush Gems series bred to require less water and resist leaf and root diseases.</i>						
Aquilegia spp (columbines)	s m	L	S A P	W B	D X	2 3 4
<i>Suited to woodland gardens. Most are not long lived and need to be replaced every 3 or 4 years.</i>						
Aquilegia formosa (western columbine)	m	L	S A P	N W B	D X	2 3

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Arabis blepharophylla (California rockcress) <i>Native to Sonoma coast. Good in rock gardens or containers.</i>	s	L	S A P	N	B E D				3
Armeria maritima (sea thrift) <i>Excellent for rock gardens. May need light shade in hottest locations.</i>	s	M	S A P		E D				3
Armeria maritima ssp californica (sea thrift) <i>Excellent for rock gardens. May need light shade in hottest locations.</i>	s	M	S A P	N	B E D				3
Asclepias spp. CA native (milkweed) <i>Important source of food for Monarch butterfly larvae. A. speciosa and A. fascicularis are native to western USA.</i>	m	L	S	N	B D	X			3 4
Aster chilensis [Symphyotrichum chilense] (California aster) <i>Spreads vigorously if over-watered.</i>	m	M	S A P	N W B	C				3
Centaurea cineraria (dusty miller) <i>Flowers in summer; velvety white foliage attractive year-round.</i>	s	L	S A P		W B E D				3
Clivia miniata (Kaffir lily) <i>Grows in deep shade. Leave clumps undisturbed for many years.</i>	m	M	A P F		E D	T X			2 3
Coreopsis spp (coreopsis)	s	M L	S		B				3 4
Dianthus plumarius (cottage pinks)	s m	M	S A P		B				3
Dicentra formosa (western bleeding heart) <i>Dormant in summer with no water.</i>	m	M		P F N	D				3
Echinacea purpurea (purple coneflower)	m	M	S A		W B D				3
Erigeron glaucus (beach aster, seaside daisy) <i>Needs some shade in hot areas.</i>	s	L	S A P	N	B E D	T			2 3 4
Erigeron karvinskianus 'Spindrift' (Santa Barbara or Mexican dai) <i>Other cultivars can be invasive.</i>	m	L	S A P		B E D				3 4
Eriogonum spp (wild buckwheats) <i>Many native species, all great habitat plants. E. grande rubescens is especially showy</i>	s m	L V	S		N W B E D C				3 4
Erysimum 'Bowles Mauve' (wallflower)	m	L	S A P		B E D				3 4
Eschscholzia californica (California poppy) <i>Native has orange or yellow flowers. Cultivars available with red, pink, white, cream, salmon flowers.</i>	s		V S	N	B D				3
Euphorbia x martinii (Martin's euphorbia) <i>Less invasive than other euphorbias.</i>	m	L	S A P		E D	X			2 3 4
Fragaria vesca (woodland strawberry) <i>Can be used as a groundcover.</i>	s	M	S A P	N	E D				1 3
Gaillardia grandiflora (blanket flower)	s m	L	S		E				3 4
Gazania spp <i>May be used as lawn substitute.</i>	s	M	S A P		E D				3
Geranium spp (cranesbill, hardy geranium) <i>Plants in some shade require less water. Many cultivars available. Some are invasive.</i>	s	M	S A P		E				3
★ Helleborus spp (hellebore, Christmas rose) <i>Water requirements vary greatly by species. H. orientalis needs moderate water. H. argutifolia and H. foetidus are most drought-tolerant.</i>	m	M L	A P F		E D	X			2 3 4
Heuchera spp (coral bells) <i>Non-native species typically have dramatic foliage.</i>	s	M	P						2 3
Heuchera maxima (island alum root)	s m	M	S A P	N	E	T			2 3

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Heuchera micrantha (alum root) <i>Native to Sonoma County.</i>	s	M	S A P	N	E		2 3
Iberis sempervirens (candytuft) <i>Will tolerate dry conditions. Shear after bloom to stimulate growth.</i>	s	M	S A P		E D		3
Iris douglasiana (Douglas iris hybrids, Pacific Coast iris) <i>Takes full sun along coast, some shade inland. Tends to self-sow in shade.</i>	s	L	S A P	N	E D		2 3 4
Kniphofia spp (red hot poker, torch lily) <i>Needs very little water once established. Groom in spring to maintain appearance.</i>	m	L	S A P		W E D		3 4
Lessingia [Corethrogyne] filaginifolia (California aster, silver carpet) <i>Does best on dry, rocky slopes. 'Silver Carpet' is best variety.</i>	s	L	S A P	N	B D		3 4
Limonium perezii (sea lavender, statice) <i>Does well in seaside gardens.</i>	m	L	S		D T		3 4
Liriope spp (lily turf) <i>Grass-like perennial. Suitable for dry shady areas.</i>	s	M	S A P F		D		3
Lupinus bicolor (blue and white lupine, miniature lupine) <i>Short-lived native perennial.</i>	s		V S	N	B E D		3 4
Monardella villosa (coyote mint)	s		V S A P	N	B D		2 3 4
★ Nepeta spp (catmint or catnip)	s m	L	S A P		B D		3 4
Origanum spp (oregano)	s m	M	S A P		B D		3
Penstemon spp (penstemon, beard tongue)	m	M	S A P		B		3
Penstemon heterophyllus (blue foothill penstemon, California penstemon)	s	L	S A P	N	B		3 4
Perovskia atriplicifolia (Russian sage) <i>Dwarf cultivars available. Cut to emerging low buds after last frost.</i>	s m g	L	S		B D		3
Phlomis russeliana (phlomis)	m	L	S A P		W E D		2 4
Ranunculus californicus (California buttercup)	s		V S	N	B		3
Rudbeckia spp (gloriosa daisy, black eyed susan)	m	M	S A P		W B D		3
★ Salvia spp, CA native (sages) <i>Recommended species are S. apiana, S. leucophylla, and cv 'Poza Blue'</i>	s m	L V	S A P	N	W B E D C		4
★ Salvia spp, non-native (sages) <i>Many varieties available. Recommended species are S. leucantha, S. chamaedryoides, S. officinalis</i>	s m g	M L	S A P		W B D T		3 4
★ Santolina spp (lavender cotton)	m	L	S A P		E D		2 3 4
Scabiosa spp (pincushion flower)	s m	M	S		B		3
Stachys byzantina (lamb's ears)	s	L	S A P		E D		2 3 4
Tanacetum parthenium 'Aureum' (feverfew) <i>Chartreuse foliage. Excellent for beneficial insects. Reseeds.</i>	m	L	S A P F		B		3
★ Teucrium chamaedrys (germander)	s	L	S		B E D		3 4
Thymus spp (thyme) <i>Genus includes ground-covers and upright or mounding perennials.</i>	s	L	S A P		B E D		1 2 3
Tulbaghia violacea (society garlic) <i>Attracts bees.</i>	s	L	S		B E D	X	3 4
Verbena lilacina 'De La Mina' (Cedros Island verbena)	m	L	S A P	N	B E	T	3

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Zauschneria [Epilobium] spp (California fuchsia)	s m	L	S	N W B	D C	3 4
<i>Attractive to pollinators. Cut back after bloom to renew. May spread to form colonies.</i>						

Succulents

Aeonium spp	s m	L	A P F	E	T	2
Agave spp (agave)	s m g	L V	S	E D C T		3 4
<i>Many smaller species available, suitable for small gardens. Some are frost tender. Avoid A. americana which grows large and is difficult to remove.</i>						
Aloe spp (aloes)	s m g	L	S A P	E	T	2 3 4
<i>Most make outstanding container plants.</i>						
Cotyledon spp (cotyledon)	s m	L	S A P	E D	T	2 3 4
Dasyliirion spp (desert spoon)	s m	V	S A P	E D		4
Dudleya spp (cliff lettuce, live forever)	s	L	A P N	E	T	2 3 4
Sedum spp (stonecrop)	s m	L	S A P	B	T	2 3 4
<i>Large genus with much variation. Some are frost tender.</i>						
Sedum spathulifolium (common stonecrop)	s	L	S A P	N W B		2 3
<i>Purpureum has deep purple foliage.</i>						
Sempervivum spp (houseleek)	s	L	S A P	B D		2 3 4
<i>Tolerates both wet and cold conditions.</i>						
Senecio mandraliscae (blue chalk fingers)	s	L	S A P		T X	3 4
Yucca filamentosa and cvs (yucca)	s m	L	S	E D		3 4
<i>'Bright Edge' and 'Color Guard' are recommended dwarf cultivars.</i>						
Yucca gloriosa	g	L	S	E D		4
<i>'Bright Star' and 'Variegata' are recommended cultivars.</i>						

Grasses and Grass-like Plants

Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama grass)	m	L	S A P	N W B	D	3 4
<i>Retains its attractive shape even when dormant. Attractive reddish flower heads in summer.</i>						
★ Calamagrostis foliosa (Cape Mendocino reed grass)	s m	M	S A P	N	B E D	3
Calamagrostis x acutiflora (feather reed grass)	m	M	S A P		D	
<i>Forms dramatic narrow clumps, has attractive flowers.</i>						
★ Carex spp (sedge)	s m	M	S A P F	W B E	D C	3
<i>Brown, green, or variegated varieties provide contrast in color and texture.</i>						
Carex texensis (catlin sedge)	s	L	A P F	B E	D C	2 3 4
Carex tumulicola (foothill sedge)	m	L	A P F N	B E	D C	2 3 4
Chondropetalum tectorum (cape reed)	m	L	S A P	W	E D	2 3 4
<i>Tolerates standing water. May be grown in rain gardens.</i>						
Deschampsia cespitosa (tufted hair grass)	m	L	S A P	N	E D	3 4
<i>Subspecies D. holciformis is good for rain gardens.</i>						
Festuca californica (California fescue)	s	L	S A P F N	E D		2 3 4
Festuca glauca (Elijah blue fescue)	s	L	A P		D	2 3 4
<i>Small, low clumps need replacing every few years.</i>						
★ Festuca idahoensis (Idaho blue fescue)	s	V	S A P	N	B E D	2 3 4
<i>Small, low clumps need replacing every few years.</i>						
Festuca rubra (red fescue)	s	L	S A P	N	B E D C	2 3 4
<i>Great lawn replacement in shade. Does not require mowing.</i>						
Helictotrichon sempervirens (blue oat grass)	m	L	S A P	E D		3 4
<i>Needs good drainage.</i>						

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Juncus patens (California grev rush) <i>Thrives in moist soil or shallow water. Good for rain gardens. Shear back old clumps to renew.</i>	s m	L	S A P	N	E D C	2 3 4
★ Lomandra longifolia (mat rush) <i>Extremely drought tolerant once established.</i>	m	L	S A P		E D	2 3 4
Muhlenbergia spp (muhly grass) <i>M. dubia, M. dumosa, M. capillaris are recommended. Cut to ground every two years.</i>	m g	L	S	W	E D C	3 4
Muhlenbergia rigens (deer grass) <i>Cut to ground every two years.</i>	g	L	S A P	N W	E C	2
Pennisetum orientale (fountain grass)	m	M	S A P		D C	3
Sesleria spp (moor grass)	s	M	S A P		E D	3
Ferns						
Polystichum munitum (western sword fern)	m g	M		F N	E D C	3
Woodwardia fimbriata (giant chain fern)	s	M		P F N	E D	