

**"Plant List for North Coast Rain Gardens"**

by Steven Swain, UCCE Environmental Horticulture Advisor

October 20, 2014

						Tolerances		Evergreen / Deciduous	Notes
Nursery	Height	Location	Exposure	Clay or Sand	Seasonal Flood/Drought				
<b>Trees</b>									
<i>Acer circinatum</i>	vine maple	A	to 20' sprawl	B	P	C	F	D	sprawls
<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	big leaf maple	A	to 45'	B	P	C	F&D	D	
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	California buckeye	A	to 30'	P	F/P	C	F&D	D	poisonous
<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	white alder	A	to 45'	P	F/P	C	F	D	
<i>Alnus rubra</i>	red alder	A	>50'	P	F/P		F	D	
<i>Cornus nuttallii</i>	pacific dogwood	A	to 35'	B	P		F&D	D	
<i>Cornus sericea</i>	red-twig dogwood	A	to 15'	B	F/P	C	F	D	
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	hazelnut	A	13-25'	B	P/S	C	F&D	D	
<i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	hawthorne	A	to 30'	P	F	C	F	D	thorns
<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Oregon ash	A	>30'	P	F/P	C	F	D	
<i>Juglans hindsii</i>	California black walnut	A	to 50'	B	F	C, S	F&D	D	allelopathic
<i>Lithocarpus densiflorus</i>	tan oak	A	to 90'	B	F/P		F&D	E	
<i>Pinus contorta</i> var. <i>contorta</i>	beach pine	A	to 25'	B	F		F&D	E	
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	black cottonwood	A	to 90'	B	F	C, S	F&D	D	no septic
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	coast live oak	A	to 60'	B	F/P		D	E	
<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	black oak	A	to 50'	B	F/P		D	D	
<i>Quercus lobata</i>	valley oak	A	to 75'	P	F	C, S	F&D	D	
<i>Salix</i> spp.	native willows	A	to 33'	P	F	S	F&D	D	
<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	bay laurel	A	to 50'	B	F/P	C	F&D	E	
<b>Ground Covers</b>									
<i>Asarum caudatum</i>	wild ginger	A	to 1'	B	S/P	C		H	acid soil
<i>Clinopodium</i> ( <i>Satureja</i> ) <i>douglasii</i>	yerba buena	A	less than 1'	B	S/P	C, S		E	
<i>Frageria chiloensis</i>	beach strawberry	A	to 1'	B	F/P	S		E	
<i>Linnaea borealis</i>	twin flower	L	to 1'	B	S/P	S	D	E	acid soil
<i>Oxalis oregana</i>	oxalis	A	less than 1'	B	S/P		D	H	
<i>Symphoricarpos mollis</i>	creeping snowberry	A	to 2'	B	P	C	D	D	
<b>Ferns</b>									
<i>Polypodium californicum</i>	California polypody fern	A	to 1.5'	P	P/S	C, S	F	D	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	western bracken fern	L	to 3'	B	P/S	S		D	
<i>Woodwardia fimbriata</i>	giant chain fern	A	to 6'	B	P/S	C, S	F	E	

		Nursery	Height	Location	Exposure	Tolerances		Evergreen / Deciduous	Notes
						Clay or Sand	Seasonal Flood/Drought		
<b>Shrubs</b>									
<i>Artemesia douglasiana</i>	mugwort	A	to 4'	B	F/P	S	F&D	E	deer res
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	coyotebrush	A	4-8'	P	F/P	C, S	F&D	E	
<i>Berberis (Mahonia) aquifolium</i>	Oregon grape	A	to 6'	P	P/S	C	F&D	E	
<i>Calycanthus occidentalis</i>	spice bush	A	to 9'	P	F/P	C, S	F	D	
<i>Ceanothus spp.</i>	ceanothus	A	various	B	F/P	C, S	D	Varies	
<i>Epilobium canum</i>	California wild fuschia	A	to 4'	B	F/P	S	D	E	
<i>Eriogonum latifolium</i>	coast buckwheat	A	to 2'	B	F	S	D	D	
<i>Garrya elliptica</i>	silk tassel	A	to 10'	B	F/P	C	D	E	
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon, Christmas berry	A	to 10'	B	F/P	C, S	D	E	
<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	ocean spray	A	to 6'	B	F/P	C	D	D	
<i>Heuchera micrantha</i>	alumroot	A	to 2'	B	P	C		E	
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	twinberry	A	to 7'	P	F/P	S	F	D	
<i>Lupinus polyphyllus</i>	broad-leaf lupine	A	to 4'	P	F/P	S	F	D	
<i>Mimulus spp.</i>	monkeyflower	A	to 3'	B	varies	C	F&D	D	
<i>Morella (Myrica) californica</i>	wax myrtle	A	6' and taller	B	F/P	C, S	F&D	E	
<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	ninebark	A	to 5'	B	F/P	C, S	F&D	E	
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	pacific cinquefoil	A	<1'	P	F	C, S	F	E	
<i>Rhamnus californica</i>	coffeeberry	A	to 7'	B	F/P	C, S	D	E	
<i>Rhododendron columbianum</i>	Labrador tea	L	3'	B	F/P	S		E	acid soil
<i>Rhododendron occidentale</i>	western azalea	A	to 15'	B	F/P	S	F	D	acid soil
<i>Ribes divaricatum</i>	spreading gooseberry	A	to 6'	P	F/P	S	F	D	
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	pink flowering currant	A	to 6'	B	S/P	C, S		D	
<i>Rosa californica</i>	California wild rose	A	to 3'	B	S/P	C, S	F	D	
<i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	wood rose	A	to 2'	B	S/P	C, S	D	D	
<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	salmonberry	A	to 7'	B	P/F	C, S	F	D	
<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	pacific blackberry	A	to 3'	B	F/P	C	F&D	D	
<i>Salvia spathecea</i>	pitcher sage	A	to 1.5'	B	P	C	F&D	E	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	blue elderberry	A	to 15'	B	P/S	C	F	D	
<i>Spirea douglasii</i>	rose spirea	A	to 5'	P	P/S	S	F&D	D	
<i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	evergreen huckleberry	A	to 3'	B	P	C, S	F&D	E	acid soil
<i>Vitis californica</i>	California wild grape	A	bush to 8', or vine	B	F/P	C, S	F	D	

		Nursery	Height	Location	Exposure	Tolerances		Evergreen / Deciduous	Notes
						Clay or Sand	Seasonal Flood/Drought		
<b>Herbaceous Perennials</b>									
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	yarrow	A	to 3'	P	F/P	C, S	F&D	H	
<i>Anemone oregana</i>	western wood anemone	L	to 1'	B	P			H	
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	red columbine	A	to 2'	P	F/P	C	F&D	H	
<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	showy milkweed	A	to 3'	B	F	C, S	F&D	H	
<i>Darmera peltata</i>	umbrella plant	A	to 5'	B	S/P	C, S		H	
<i>Dicentra formosa</i>	bleeding heart	A	to 2'	B	P	S		H	
<i>Epipactus gigantea</i>	stream orchid	A	to 3'	P	P	C, S	F	H	
<i>Iris douglasiana</i>	Douglas iris	A	to 2'	P	F/P	C, S	F	H	
<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	hairy honeysuckle	A	climbing vine	B	P	C	F	H	
<i>Solidago californica</i>	California goldenrod	A	to 3'	P	S/P	C, S	F	H	
<i>Symphiotrichum chilense</i>	California aster	A	to 3'	B	F/P	C		H	spreads
<i>Tellima grandiflora</i>	fringe cups	A	to 2'	B	S/P	C	F	H	
<i>Viola spp.</i>	native violets	A	1'	B	S/P	C	D	H	
<b>Grasses and Sedges</b>									
<i>Carex nudata</i>	torrent sedge	A	to 1.5'	P	F/P	S	F	D	
<i>Carex praegracilis</i>	clustered field sedge	A	to 2'	P	F/P	C, S	F	D	
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	tufted hairgrass	A	to 3'	B	F/P	C, S	F	H	
<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	salt grass	A	<1'	P	F/P	C, S	F	D	
<i>Elymus triticoides</i>	creeping wild rye	A	to 3'	P	F/P	C, S	F	D	
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	scouring rush	A	to 5'	P	F/P	C, S	F	E	
<i>Festuca californica</i>	California fescue	A	to 2.5'	B	F/P	C, S	F, D	E	
<i>Juncus patens</i>	spreading rush	A	to 2'	P	F/P/S	C	F, D	H	
<i>Juncus mexicanus</i>	mexican rush	A	to 2'	P	F/P	C, S	F	E	
<i>Schoenoplectus microcarpus</i>	small-fruited bulrush	A	to 2'	P	F/P	C, S	F	E	
<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	blue-eyed grass	A	to 2'	P	x	C, S	F, D	E	

**Sources:**

So Cal Rain Gardens  
 Groundwork  
 Prunuske Chatham Inc.  
 Sonoma County Master Gardeners

**Legend:**

*Nursery*  
 A = Available  
 L = Limited availability

*Location*  
 B = Bank or berm planting (drainage reqd)  
 P = Flood plain (tolerates poor drainage in winter)

*Exposure*  
 F = Full sun  
 P = Partial sun  
 S = Shade

*Deciduous / Evergreen*  
 D = Deciduous  
 E = Evergreen  
 H = Herbaceous