

Baccharis salicifolia (Mulefat)

Leaf: Alternate, simple, evergreen, lanceolate, 3 to 5 inches long, widely spaced fine teeth, maybe sticky, shiny green above, paler below.

Flower: Dioecious; white, 1/2 inch across, displayed in open terminal flower heads or tighter clusters from axils, appear nearly year round.

Fruit: A small achene tipped with long feathery white bristles (dandelion like), often in great abundance.

Twig: Very pithy, light brown to golden brown, sticky green when young. Leaf scars are narrow and raised.

Bark: Grayish brown shallowly ridged with reddish furrows.

Form: An up to 8 foot tall, suckering, thicket forming shrub, generally graceful.



Populus fremontii (Fremont Cottonwood)

Leaf: Alternate, simple, broadly cordate to triangular, coarsely crenate, 2 to 4 inches long, petiole flattened, shiny green above, sometimes pubescent beneath.

Flower: Dioecious; males and females as hanging catkins, 2 to 4 inches long, yellow-green, appearing in early spring before the leaves.

Fruit: Light brown, small egg-shaped capsules, splits (3 parts) to disseminate numerous, small cottony seeds.

Twig: Moderate to stout, gray-brown to yellow-brown, swollen at leaf scars; large green-brown pointed bud, not sticky; twig has a bitter aspirin taste.

Bark: Light gray-brown, becoming deeply furrowed with flat-topped ridges.

Form: Reaches up to 60 feet in height with a broad, flat-topped crown, with a trunk up to 2 to 3 feet in diameter.



Salix lasiolepis (Arroyo Willow)

Leaf: Alternate, simple, lanceolate to narrowly obovate, 3 to 6 inches long, margins wavy or with a few wavy teeth, thick and somewhat leathery, shiny dark green above, whitish beneath.

Flower: Dioecious; 1 to 2 inches long, fuzzy catkins, yellowish white, appearing in spring with or before the leaves.

Fruit: Small (1/4 inch), long-pointed, hairy capsules in oblong clusters; each capsule contains numerous small fuzzy seeds.

Twig: Slender, green to gray-brown, may have some fuzz; green to light brown buds are large and dull pointed, with a single cap-like scale.

Bark: Light gray, smooth, with lenticels when young, later splitting with reddish brown fissures and flat, light gray ridge tops.

Form: Usually a multi-stemmed, thicket forming large shrub up to 25 feet tall, may also be a small tree.



Heteromeles arbutifolia (Toyon)

Leaf: Alternate, evergreen, oblong to lanceolate, 2 to 4 inches long, sharply serrated and bristle tipped, leathery, shiny dark green above, yellow-green beneath.

Flower: Showy, spike-like, many branched, terminal cluster of small (1/4 inch) white flowers, appearing in late spring and early summer.

Fruit: Small (1/4 inch) red (occasionally yellow) pome ripening in late summer and fall, persistent in winter.

Twig: Slender, yellow-green to reddish brown to gray, initially quite hairy, but later becoming smooth.

Bark: Smooth, reddish gray with small lenticels.

Form: Large shrub to small tree typically with a short trunk and numerous limbs.



Prunus ilicifolia (Hollyleaf Cherry)

Leaf: Alternate, simple, evergreen, oval to nearly round, 1 to 3 inches long, thick and leathery, margin with spine-tipped hollylike teeth, shiny green above, much paler below.

Flower: Feathery, to 3 inch-long racemes of small, creamy-white, 5-petal flowers, generally held upright, appearing in the spring.

Fruit: Clustered drupes, up to 1/2 inch in diameter, red to purple when ripe in the fall, persisting into winter.

Twig: Gray to red-brown, slender, somewhat angled, pronounced bitter almond odor and taste, pre-formed catkins present in leaf nodes.

Bark: Red-brown to gray-brown, young branches with lenticels, bitter almond scent present when broken.

Form: A large, dense, multi-stem shrub or small tree to 20 feet, of equal spread.



Quercus agrifolia (Coast Live Oak)

Leaf: Alternate, evergreen, simple, elliptical to oblong, 1 to 2 1/2 inches long, thick and leathery, convex with edges turning down, spiny margins (holly-like), shiny green above, duller with fuzz in vein axils below.

Flower: Monoecious; males in long (2 to 4 inches) narrow drooping catkins, yellow-green; females inconspicuous reddish green spike in leaf axils.

Fruit: An elongated, narrow, light brown acorn, 1 to 1 1/2 inches long, pointy ends, often distinctly cone-shaped; scaly, gray-brown cap covers 1/4 to 1/3 of acorn, matures in one year in early fall.

Twig: Slender to moderate, initially quite fuzzy but later often completely smooth and gray-brown; end buds clustered, reddish brown, broadest at the base with a rounded tip.

Bark: Smooth, gray-brown when young, with age becomes darker with broad, lighter gray ridges.

Form: An evergreen, large (up to 100 feet tall) tree with a short trunk and numerous large, crooked, spreading branches. Crown spread often exceeds its height.



Sambucus Mexicana (Blue Elderberry)

Leaf: Opposite, pinnately compound, deciduous, 6 to 12 inches long, with 5 to 9 lanceolate leaflets, apex pointed and margins serrate, dark green and smooth above and paler below.

Flower: Monoecious; perfect, tiny white flowers borne in large, upright, flat-topped clusters, appearing in early summer.

Fruit: Small (1/16 to 1/8 inch), dark blue berry-like fruits covered with a white bloom, borne in upright, flat-topped clusters. Not listed as being toxic to humans when eaten raw, but why take a chance when red elder is toxic?

Twig: Stout, soft, and with a large spongy pith; covered with a waxy bloom; opposite buds and leaves. New sprouts may grow 10 to 12 feet in a single year.

Bark: Grayish brown to black and covered with raised lenticels.

Form: Grows as a large upright shrub or small tree, commonly to 20 feet or more.



Artemisia californica (California Sagebrush)

Leaf: Alternate, simple, persistent but drought deciduous, small, entire or very deeply divided into linear lobes, strongly aromatic, pubescent, early leaves are large, later leaves are smaller and tougher, appearing on stems that grow from the leaf axils, gray-green above and below.

Flower: Very small, yellow-green to pink, flower heads arranged in racemes, summer to late fall.

Fruit: Small achenes, ripening in December.

Twig: Slender, wispy and covered in pale pubescence, may be grooved.

Bark: Initially gray, becoming gray-brown.

Form: A dense multi-stem shrub to 5 feet.



Eriogonum fasciculatum (California Buckwheat)

Leaf: Alternate, but densely clustered at nodes, evergreen, narrow lanceolate (nearly needles like), 1/2 inch long, strongly rolled edges, dark green above, paler finely fuzzy white beneath.

Flower: Dense, terminal, rounded clusters of small white (pinkish) flowers on a long stem, each cluster several inches across, appearing throughout growing season.

Fruit: Brown achene, not showy.

Twig: Slender reddish brown, finely peeling, numerous short shoots packed with leaves.

Bark: Light gray, splitting and becoming finely shreddy.

Form: Small, open, multi-stemmed shrub up to 3 feet tall.



Rhus integrifolia (Lemonade Berry)

Leaf: Alternate, simple, evergreen, elliptical, leathery, 2 to 2 1/2 inches long, entire to toothed (nearly spiny) margin, waxy, shiny green above, paler beneath, fragrant.

Flower: Small (1/4 inch across), 5 white to pink petals, occur in 2 to 3 inch clusters at the ends of the twigs, appearing in late winter and early spring.

Fruit: Elliptical, 1/2 inch across, reddish brown and fuzzy, in tight clusters at the ends of the twigs.

Twig: Moderately stout, reddish and fuzzy, small pointy buds.

Bark: Smooth and grayish brown, develops reddish splits and cracks, eventually coarsely scaly.

Form: Large thicket forming shrub reaching up to 10 feet with a spreading, sprawling.



Salvia leucophylla (Purple Sage)

It is a [shrub](#) growing up to 1.5 m tall on dry, open hillsides. The [leaves](#) are grayish [tomentose](#), 2-8 cm long, with a rugose (puckered) surface. The large [spikes](#) bear whorls of purple flowers, 6-13 mm long. The flowers are highly aromatic and attract a variety of [birds](#) and [insects](#).



Salvia mellifera (Black Sage)

Black sage is a [perennial shrub](#) that grows approximately 1-2 m (3-6 ft) tall. It is covered with simple hairs with some glandular hairs, which makes it highly aromatic. The [leaves](#) are oblong-elliptic to obovate in shape and are about 2.5–7 cm (1-2.8 in) long. The upper surface of the leaf is somewhat glabrous, while the lower surface of the leaf is hairy.[\[1\]](#)



Yucca whipplei (Yucca)

Plant Type: typically this plant blooms once and then dies, although could be thought of as a perennial Size: base is up to 3 feet tall and 6 feet wide; flower stalk adds up to 10 feet in height Common Habitat: chaparral or coastal sage scrub



Baccharis pilularis (Coyote Brush)

This shrub is generally smaller than 3 meters in height. It is glabrous and generally sticky. The stems are prostrate to erect which branches spreading or ascending. The leaves are 8–55 mm long and are entire to toothed and oblanceolate to obovate, with three principal veins. The heads are in a leafy panicle. The involucre is hemispheric to bell shaped.



Achillea millefolium (Yarrow)

Common yarrow is an erect [herbaceous perennial plant](#) that produces one to several stems (0.2 to 1m tall) and has a [rhizomatous](#) growth form. Leaves are evenly distributed along the stem, with the leaves near the middle and bottom of the stem being the largest. The leaves have varying degrees of hairiness (pubescence). The [leaves](#) are 5-20 cm long, [bipinnate or tripinnate](#), almost feathery, and arranged spirally on the stems.



Aristida purpurea (Purple Three-Awn)

Often in large bunches, the culms and leaf blades of this grass rise 12-20 in. in height. The seedhead is narrow and nodding with lax, purplish branches. Three long, bristles occur from each flower.



Bromus carinatus (California Brome)

California brome is a variable species, differing in, among other things, duration. Considered annuals, biennials & perennials, all appear actually to be short-lived perennials that sometimes flower the first season. The culms are 2-3 ft. tall with a narrow panicle. The branches of the seed head are usually erect, but may be drooping.



Collinsia heterophylla (Chinese Houses)

Purple Chinese Houses is an [annual plant](#) growing in shady places, and can be found in most of California, other than desert regions, below about 1000 metres. It blooms from mid spring to early summer. The plant is from 10-50 cm tall.



Deschampsia caepitosa (Tufted Hairgrass)

The Tufted Hairgrass has Green foliage and inconspicuous yellow flowers with inconspicuous Brown fruits or seeds. At maturity, the typical Tufted Hairgrass will reach up to 3.4 feet high, with a maximum height at 20 years of 3.4 feet.



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A. KRUSTÁTEL, *DESCHAMPSIA FLEXUOSA* (L.) TRIN.
B. TUVTÁTEL, *DESCHAMPSIA CAEPITOSA* (L.) PB.

Eschscholzia californica (California Poppy)

It can grow 5–60 cm tall, with alternately branching [glaucous](#) blue-green foliage. The [leaves](#) are ternately divided into round, lobed segments. The [flowers](#) are solitary on long stems, silky-textured, with four petals, each petal 2–6 cm long and broad; their color ranges from yellow to orange, and flowering is from February to September. The [petals](#) [close at night](#) or in cold, windy weather and open again the following morning, although they may remain closed in cloudy weather.^[1] The [fruit](#) is a slender dehiscent [capsule](#) 3–9 cm long, which splits in two to release the numerous small black or dark brown [seeds](#). It is perennial in mild parts of its native range, and annual in colder climates; growth is best in full sun and sandy, well-drained, poor soil.



California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) - This native stands 12-18 inches tall and can be found in drier, upland areas surrounding the marsh where there is good drainage.



Festuca californica (California Fescue)

Fine textured grayish blue-green blades form a soft mound 8 - 12 inches tall. Drooping, violet-tinged flower stems are held above the foliage another 8 - 12 inches in late spring - early summer.



Hordeum brachyantherum (Meadow Barley)

This is a tufting perennial grass approaching a meter in maximum height. It produces compact, narrow [inflorescences](#) 8 to 10 centimeters long and purplish in color. Like other barleys the spikelets come in triplets. It has two small, often sterile lateral spikelets on [pedicels](#) and a larger, fertile central spikelet lacking a pedicel.



Lotus scoparius 'Scoparius' (California Broom)

The [stems](#) are green, erect, somewhat branched, with small, [deciduous](#), [pinnate](#) leaves consisting of three to six leaflets. The plant blooms from about March to August and has [flowers](#) that are bilateral, small (7-11 mm), yellow, and clustered together in an [inflorescence](#) consisting of 2 – 7 flowers in the upper [leaf axils](#). The flowers become reddish with age. The [fruit](#) consists of a curved pod with two [seeds](#).



Lupinus arboreus (Giant Lupine)

It is a perennial [shrub](#) growing to 2 m tall (hence the alternative common name, **tree lupine**) in sheltered situations, but more typically 1-1.5 m tall. It has green to gray-green palmate leaves, with 5-12 leaflets per leaf. The leaflets are 2-6 cm long, often sparsely covered with fine silky hairs. Both yellow and lilac to purple flowering forms are known; however, the yellow form is more common, except in the north of the species' range.



Melica californica (California Melic)

California Melic is a small, delicate grass often found on slopes under oak trees. Dry shade is its favorite home. Slender green foliage is topped with delicate flowers of a subtle beauty. Goes semidormant through summer and fall, and is one of the first plants to green back up with the arrival of fall rains.



Melica imperfecta (Coastrange Melic)

Native to dry hillsides, chaparral and open woodlands of the coast ranges. This native perennial grass grows 1 - 2 ft. tall in flower. The narrow flower panicles provide a delicate effect, starting out cream and aging to beige. Grows best in part shade and responds to some irrigation. Goes dormant if allowed to go summer dry once established, turning green with the winter rains. Useful for lightly shaded meadow plantings and stabilizing slopes. Deer resistant.



Muhlenbergia rigens (Deergrass)

Form: mounding grass

Seasonality: evergreen; leaves may brown in colder climates

Size: foliage to 4ft, with equal spread; flower spikes held above foliage

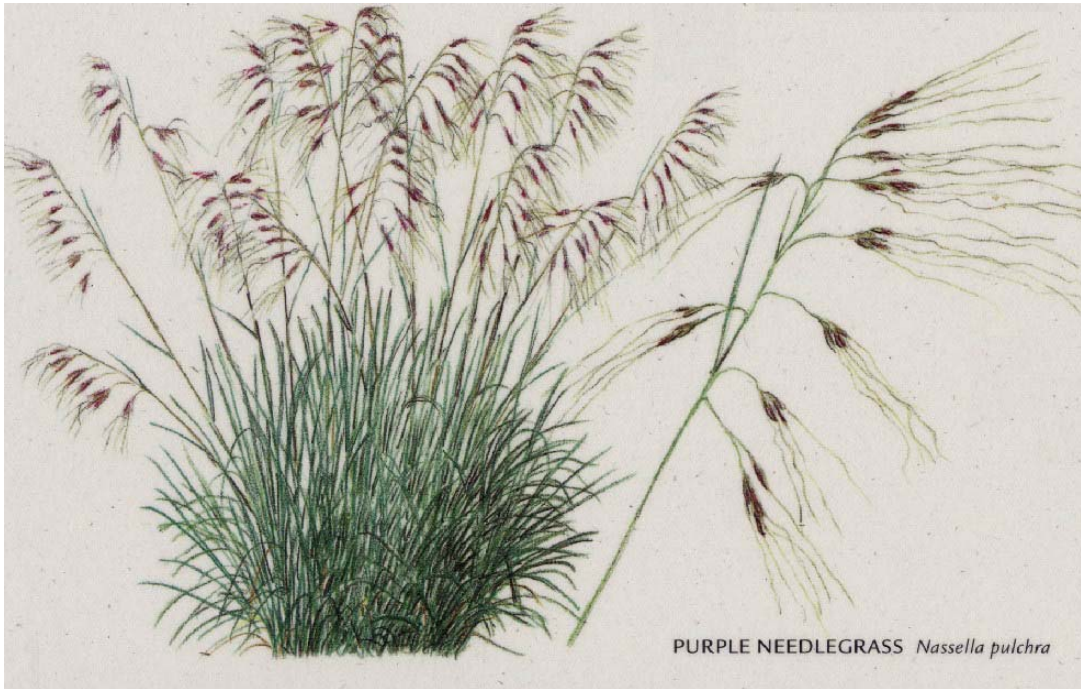
Leaves: long narrow grass blades

Flowers: tall stalk with seed head follows straw-yellow flowers; bloom in early fall

Fruit: seed



Nassella pulchra (Purple Needlegrass)



Salvia apiana

White sage is a sub-shrub that can reach over 1 meter tall. The leaves are widely lanceolate and tapered at the base. The margin is minutely toothed and rounded. The leaves are generally basal, covered with dense hairs, which gives it a white coloring, and are about 4–8 cm long. The [inflorescence](#) is a spike-like clusters with few flowers. The [flowers](#) are bilateral, about 12–22 mm in length, and are white with lavender spots and streaks. Both the [stamens](#) and styles are exerted. The [fruit](#) form into shiny, light brown [nutlets](#) that are 2.5–3 mm in size.



Sisyrinchium bellum (Blue-eyed Grass)

Sisyrinchium bellum is a 1 foot tall perennial with 1 inch blue flowers in Jan.-June. It has small, iris-like leaves. It is widely distributed in California on open, grassy slopes. It likes full sun and garden water. It also can become very drought tolerant. It grows in sand to clay, coastal bluffs to interior grasslands.



Stipa Coronata (Giant Stipa)

Giant needlegrass is a bunch grass, 4 ft. high, distinctive, grows in the mountains of central and southern California, for dry banks and paths, full sun, little water. The Stipas occur throughout California in many plant communities. They do not form large solid stands except in 20-50' clumps near seeps, but in most areas they stand as locus individuals.



Stipa speciosa (Desert Needlegrass)

Desert needle grass is a 1-2' bunch grass that is native to Mojave and Colorado deserts and the s. Coast ranges and s.Sierra. Use for dry banks and paths , full sun, little water. It looks like a bunch of little white flags being held by a rabbit. Or for you Calif. folks it looks like minature top spikes of Pampus grass.

