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Salvia brandegeei 'Pacific Blue'
Santa Rosa Island sage



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Achillea 'Moonshine' moonshine yarrow

A smaller yarrow with gray-green leaves and bright yellow flowers, it blooms in spring and summer. Deadhead it to extend its blooming period or cut the flowers for use in long-lasting, dried arrangements.

- Size:** two feet tall by two feet wide
- Bloom:** bright yellow flat topped clusters on 2 foot stems
- Sun/Shade:** prefers full sun but tolerates a little shade
- Pruning:** cut old stems to the ground in winter and remove withered foliage
- Water:** medium to low water once established



Correa 'Pink Flamingo' pink Australian fuchsia

A compact, evergreen shrub with many lovely, bell-shaped blooms covering it in winter and early spring. Prefers bright shade or direct morning sun, good drainage and is deer resistant. Will attract hummingbirds to your garden.

- Size:** to three foot wide and tall
- Bloom:** attractive salmon-pink bell-shaped flowers about three quarters of an inch long
- Sun/Shade:** sun or light shade
- Pruning:** prune to shape when young
- Water:** medium-low to low water



Ajuga reptans 'Catlin's Giant' showy carpet bugle

A commonly used species of herbaceous, ground-hugging, creeping perennial for shady gardens that has bronzy-tinted foliage and colorful blooms in spring. This cultivar produces uncommonly large and showy flower spikes. Great for ground cover and spring color under trees and shrubs.

- Size:** foliage only three to four inches tall and spreads over time
- Bloom:** tall spikes of dark blue flowers to eight inches tall in spring and summer
- Sun/Shade:** part to full shade, shade from the afternoon sun
- Pruning:** none, can remove old flower stems with a mower
- Water:** medium to low once established



Dianthus gratianopolitanus 'Tiny Rubies' tiny rubies cheddar pink

A compact perennial that forms an evergreen, olive-green cushion of leaves that are useful for edging along paths or in the rock garden. In spring it is covered with masses of brilliant, tiny, pink flowers fragrant with the pleasant scent of cloves.

- Size:** four to five inches tall to one foot wide
- Bloom:** masses of double pink flowers cover the foliage in spring.
- Sun/Shade:** full sun
- Pruning:** cut back flower stalks after blooming
- Water:** low water once established



Ceratostigma willmottianum Chinese plumbago

A small, summer blooming deciduous shrub with diamond-shaped bright green foliage in spring that darkens to medium green on arching, wiry stems. Highly valued for its intensely colored dark blue flowers and red foliage; in fall stems are tipped with chocolate-colored seed capsules.

- Size:** from two and a half to four feet tall
- Bloom:** beautiful intense, true blue flowers in summer and into fall
- Sun/Shade:** sun or partial shade
- Pruning:** none, can remove old flower stems with a mower
- Water:** medium to low once established



Epilobium canum 'Everett's Choice' Everett Butts California fuchsia

A compact, herbaceous (non-woody) California native perennial that is perfect for edges along paths and the front of any low-water planting. Wide green leaves produce large, showy displays of red-orange flowers starting in summer and continuing through fall, this plant is a guaranteed magnet for hummingbirds.

- Size:** six inches tall spreading over time to three to four feet
- Bloom:** large, tubular red-orange flowers brighten up the summer and fall garden
- Sun/Shade:** full sun
- Pruning:** none, shear in winter to neaten its appearance if desired
- Water:** low water, irrigate once or twice a month to keep plant vigorous



Eriogonum arborescens
Santa Cruz Island buckwheat

A California native shrub with narrow gray leaves that produce flat-topped clusters of whitish-pink flowers in spring and summer. Later in the season seed heads form attractive bronze colored clusters good in dried arrangements. This plants is a great cover for banks and will attract a fascinating array of beneficial insects and pollinators to the garden.



- Size:** three to four feet tall by five feet wide at maturity, but can grow larger in rich soils
- Bloom:** creamy pink flat top clusters in spring and summer
- Sun/Shade:** full sun
- Pruning:** none needed but can prune to shape if denser form is desired
- Water:** very low, only a few deep irrigations needed in summer once established

Eriogonum grande var. rubescens
San Miguel Island pink buckwheat

A small shrub (has a woody base) with spoon-shaped, gray, silver-edged leaves that produce beautiful vivid pink “pom-pom” flowers on stalks up to two feet long from late spring to fall. Delightful and durable, this plant it attracts butterflies.



- Size:** one to three feet tall and two to three feet wide
- Bloom:** branched flowering stalks produce showy pink flowers in round clusters over a long season
- Sun/Shade:** full sun
- Pruning:** can be pruned in late winter to make a more compact shape
- Water:** low water (every two weeks) in summer

Eriogonum fasciculatum ‘Theodore Payne’
Payne’s wild buckwheat

A tough, evergreen, creeping groundcover with apple-green, needle-like foliage . Excellent for slopes and dry gardens it will tolerate some shade if necessary. Stays compact to make nice tight mat of foliage with rounded clusters of white flowers great to attract the smaller butterflies.



- Size:** One foot tall by three to five feet wide at maturity
- Bloom:** creamy white flowers on branched stalks produce condensed balls in summer
- Sun/Shade:** full sun
- Pruning:** none, tip prune when young to encourage branching
- Water:** low to very low water once established

Festuca idahoensis ‘Clearwater blue’
Clearwater fescue

A fine-textured grass with attractive powder-blue foliage and excellent planted en masse to create a carpet of color or mixed with bold, dark green foliage plants for accent and contrast. Feathery flower stalks rise from foliage in spring and summer.



- Size:** foliage to six inches tall topped by flowering stalks to one foot. Smaller than other similar fescues
- Bloom:** silvery feathery stalks above foliage
- Sun/Shade:** full sun although does best with afternoon shade from hot summer sun.
- Pruning:** none
- Water:** medium-low or every two weeks once established

Gazania ‘Christopher Lloyd’
Christopher Lloyd gazania

This low-growing, perennial with narrow green foliage has a long bloom period from late spring to early fall. Large daisy-type flowers have unusual markings with a contrasting green band at the base of the petals around a yellow center. It will need protection from prolonged freezing temperatures.



- Size:** eight to twelve inches tall and wide.
- Bloom:** beautiful large pink flowers with a darker stripe down the middle of the petals and centered with a green and yellow “eye”
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** none
- Water:** medium to low once established

Geranium ‘Gerwat’ Rozanne®
Rozanne® hardy geranium

This is an amazingly tough perennial that is a prolific and long-blooming plant in summer. Use for extra color in and around other plants where it will spread and weave among the plants to create beautiful color combinations. Although low-growing it holds its flowers high above the plant and will bloom in repeated flushes over the summer.



- Size:** one to one and a half feet tall by two feet wide.
- Bloom:** large open violet blue flowers with white centers
- Sun/Shade:** sun to light shade
- Pruning:** shear foliage to freshen if desired
- Water:** medium

***Graptopetalum paraguayense*
mother of pearl plant**

Aptly named this succulent has foliage that is often a mixture of different shades of pale blue, light pink and pale purple. The individual rosettes are three to five inches wide but branch freely to form a cluster that can easily be expanded by detaching the rosettes with a small bit of stem and sticking in moist soil. Easy and adaptable it is useful for container plantings, cascading over walls and for edging along paths.



- Size:** to one foot tall by two to three feet wide at maturity
- Bloom:** white flowers produced in spring are not showy
- Sun/Shade:** can tolerate early morning sun in summer but prefers shade in hot afternoons.
- Pruning:** none, remove spent flower stalks if desired
- Water:** low water once established.

***Grevillea thelemanniana* 'Gilded Dragon'
hummingbird bush**

A low-growing, evergreen shrub with silver-grey foliage and stunning dark red flowers winter into spring. Graceful branches form a rounded plant and is surprisingly tolerant of some shade. The flowers are nectar rich and will attract hummingbirds.



- Size:** mounding to two foot tall and four foot wide.
- Bloom:** dark red flower clusters send out "spidery" pistils (female parts) that car yellow green.
- Sun/Shade:** sun or part shade
- Pruning:** to shape when young
- Water:** low once established

***Hebe* 'Pretty in Pink'
pink flowering spreading hebe**

A compact, evergreen shrub native to New Zealand with attractive, smooth, shiny foliage that turns a burgundy color on the growth tips. Abundant, dense pink flower spikes cover plant in spring and summer and are very attractive with burgundy colored foliage.



- Size:** dense foliage to two feet tall by three feet wide
- Bloom:** dark red flower clusters send out "spidery" pistils (female parts) that turn yellow/green.
- Sun/Shade:** sun or part shade
- Pruning:** to shape when young
- Water:** low once established

***Helleborus X ballardiae* 'Coseh 930'
Gold Collection®Mahogany
Snow**

This new introduction of a group of winter-blooming perennials are perfect for that shady spot in flower beds or containers and deer don't like them. They begin flowering in January and February to brighten the grayest day with beautiful, large flowers.



- Size:** to one foot tall by two feet wide
- Bloom:** large, creamy flowers that reverse age to a mahogany pink
- Sun/Shade:** full shade or partial shade (no hot pm summer sun)
- Pruning:** remove old foliage if desired.
- Water:** medium

***Heteropterys angustifolia*
red wing, mariposa**

This tough, heat-tolerant and little seen evergreen, twining shrub can be grown as a vine, but needs support. Lance shaped, shiny, narrow leaves produce golden clusters of small flowers followed by pink to crimson colored ornamental fruit with wings similar to that of a maple.



Photo by Gabriella F. Rucellan

- Size:** twining from five to ten feet tall
- Bloom:** showy yellow clusters of small flowers followed by highly ornamental red fruit
- Sun/Shade:** sun or part shade
- Pruning:** prune to shape and direct growth where desired
- Water:** medium to low once established

***Heuchera sanguinea* 'Snow Angel'
variegated coral bells**

A small evergreen perennial that is perfect for accent and color along the front of the flower border or in pots. Unusual variegated foliage marbled and streaked in a painterly way can brighten up a shady area and is especially useful for smaller gardens and patios.



- Size:** foliage to one foot tall and one foot wide
- Bloom:** rose-pink flowers rise above foliage in spring and early summer
- Sun/Shade:** shade, protect from hot summer sun
- Pruning:** none, remove old foliage if desired
- Water:** medium

Juncus patens 'Elk blue' Elk Blue California rush

Rushes and other grass-like plants are valued for their narrow foliage and contrasting forms and this variety is no exception. Totally vertical, round, blue-grey foliage will grow into a clump that is very attractive against pale blue succulents or apple-green ground covers. Fairly drought tolerant, it also can be grown in "rain gardens" and damp areas. The species is native in the Central Valley.



- Size:** to two feet tall and will spread slowly over time
Bloom: tiny coppery-brown flowers are held in rounded clusters at leaf tips.
Sun/Shade: grows in full sun or part shade
Pruning: none, shabby foliage can be cut flush to the ground in late winter to encourage fresh growth
Water: low water once established

Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince' Canyon Prince wild ryegrass

For California native plant gardeners Canyon Prince is a must. Forming two to three foot tall clumps of powdery blue leaves it can be used as a background or accent plant in low water gardens. Increasing in size over time it will need outer growth removed to contain it. New shoots emerge green and turn blue over time.



- Size:** foliage to three feet and taller with more water
Bloom: tight spikes of wheat colored flowers one to two feet above foliage in summer
Sun/Shade: best in sun
Pruning: cut to ground once a year in late summer to freshen foliage
Water: low to very low

Limoniastrum monopetalum shrubby statice

A shrubby, evergreen plant native to Mediterranean coastal areas where it is adapted to prolonged drought, this plant is relatively new to horticulture. Flattened, gray foliage twists upward in an attractive pattern to be topped with tiny pinkish-lavender blooms in spring and summer. So far it's proved cold hardy and unharmed by frost the last few winters, but has yet to be tested by extreme freezing.



- Size:** to two feet tall and three feet wide.
Bloom: small pinkish lavender flowers cover the dense foliage in spring and summer
Sun/Shade: grows in full sun
Pruning: none
Water: low water once established

Manfreda guttata 'Jaguar' spotted false agave

This flat rosette of gray-green leaves with maroon spots add form and interest in a container or the front of the border. It's a native to Mexico and seems to prefer good drainage. Tall spikes of narrow blooms will surprise you!



- Size:** two feet around
Bloom: spikes three to four feet produce spidery blooms with long extended anthers
Sun/Shade: protect from late afternoon sun
Pruning: none
Water: medium to low depending on exposure

Melaleuca incana Gray honey myrtle

This quick-growing evergreen shrub with soft gray leaves on attractively arching branches produces beautiful, pale "bottle brush" flowers. It's great either in the background or as specimen plant.



- Size:** arching branches to ten feet tall and six to eight feet wide
Bloom: small dark reddish buds open to reveal light yellow bottle-brush flowers in late spring through early summer.
Sun/Shade: sun
Pruning: prune to shape as desired
Water: low once established, it looks better with occasional watering

Miscanthus sinensis 'Little Kitten' dwarf Chinese silver grass

This dwarf variety of silver grass is suitable for the smaller size of our urban gardens. A tough and dependable cultivar, it produces ornamental, branched flower spikes that glitter when back lit by the rising or setting sun. Despite being native to climates with summer rain we have found it to be adaptable to low irrigation.



- Size:** to three feet tall and wide and will spread slowly over time
Bloom: attractive metallic "fingers" of branched flowers add interest in the summer and autumn garden
Sun/Shade: grows in full sun or part shade
Pruning: cut flush to the ground in winter to renew foliage
Water: low water once established

Neomarica caerulea walking iris

The dramatic, sword-shaped and grayish-green vertical foliage of this plant is useful for creating accent and drama in shady Valley gardens. You will also love the beautiful clusters of deep blue-violet flowers it produces in summer.



- Size:** four to five feet tall by three feet wide, very vertical
Bloom: successions of intricately patterned flowers in the hottest months of summer
Sun/Shade: likes shade or morning sun
Pruning: remove old leaves as desired
Water: low water
-

Pennisetum alopecuroides ‘Hameln’ white fountain grass

The delicate, fine-texture leaves of this grass make an attractive tuft for a front or middle section of a border. In spring it produces furry, pinkish plumes that lend it a soft and appealing form. Its foliage colors with orange-tints as weather cools and is tan in winter. This species is not weedy.



- Size:** to two and a half feet to three feet tall and wide
Bloom: attractive foxtail-like flower heads
Sun/Shade: sun
Pruning: cut to the ground in winter when dormant to refresh foliage
Water: medium to low water
-

Penstemon ‘Amelia Jayne’ Amelia Jayne penstemon

This large, dark pink flowered, and wide-mouthed penstemon is perfect for adding color in spring and summer. Its shiny green lance-shaped foliage is attractive, and unlike some penstemon selections, this one does not flop.



- Size:** to three feet by three feet
Bloom: large spikes of dark pink and white flowers with tubular flowers with lobed edges.
Sun/Shade: sun or only late afternoon shade is best
Pruning: prune to shape in late winter
Water: medium to low water (if protect from hot summer sun)
-

Polygonatum odoratum ‘Variegatum’ Solomon’s seal

This extremely graceful herbaceous perennial with attractive arching stems holds nearly horizontal bright green oval leaves and delicate bell-shaped white and green flower clusters that dangle below. It’s excellent for shade gardens and will spread slowly over time so you can share it with your friends.



- Size:** usually two to three feet tall in our area
Bloom: clusters of white and green bells in spring and summer
Sun/Shade: shade
Pruning: remove old stems in winter
Water: medium water
-

Ribes malvaceum ‘Montara Rose’ Montara chaparral currant

A tough shrub native to coastal foothills preferring good drainage and afternoon shade. It produces attractive, dark pink clusters of flowers in late winter and early spring. Will go summer deciduous without irrigation. A prolific bloomer it will provide a source of nectar to visiting hummingbirds.



- Size:** to five feet tall and wide
Bloom: a darker pink selection with profuse small clusters of flowers
Sun/Shade: morning sun, afternoon shade best
Pruning: shape when young to make a dense form
Water: little to no water once established
-

Ribes sanguineum ‘Inverness White’ White wild currant

A coastal form of wild currant with globular clusters of white flowers in winter and early spring and bright green foliage that will brighten the shade beneath larger trees. Native wild currants have a tendency to drop their leaves in summer if not irrigated and require careful placement in the landscape.



- Size:** four to five feet tall and wide
Bloom: winter and early spring many clusters of white flowers with a slight pink blush
Sun/Shade: shade especially hot afternoon sun in summer
Pruning: prune to shape when young
Water: medium to low
-

Rosmarinus officinalis 'Renzels' Irene®
dark blue prostrate rosemary

This rosemary is an excellent low- water ground cover for the very low maintenance gardener. Prostrate varieties like this one are excellent in containers and raised beds where their dark blue flowers and green branches will trail beautifully over edges. Leaves can also be snipped for cooking.



- Size:** vigorous grower spreading two feet per year to one to one and a half feet tall
- Bloom:** deep lavender-blue flowers
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** remove any upright stems if desired
- Water:** low

Salvia x jamensis 'Scott's Red'
Scott's red autumn sage

A hybrid with an intermediate form, this is one of the best of the red bush sages. It comes into bloom early in spring and is covered with a profuse number of blooms. Then again in fall it has another dramatic show never completely going out of flower in summer. The smooth pointed foliage is also attractive and flowers provide a magnet for hummingbirds.



- Size:** up to two feet tall and three feet wide at maturity
- Bloom:** blue purple in color in late spring and early summer
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** prune to shape in late winter early spring
- Water:** low

Salvia 'Bee's Bliss'
bee's bliss purple sage

This low-growing, heat and drought tolerant spreader with gray-green foliage and profuse flowers in spring is attractive to bees, butterflies and hummingbirds but not to deer. It's good for slopes and to spill over edges of walls. A California native hybrid of uncertain origin 'Bees Bliss' is tough and long-lived.



- Size:** to two feet tall and six to eight feet wide
- Bloom:** lavender blue whorls of flowers in spring.
- Sun/Shade:** grow in full sun
- Pruning:** tip prune when young to encourage bushy growth
- Water:** low water, requires only a few deep irrigations in summer

Salvia 'Violin Music'
purple autumn sage

A shrubby and long blooming autumn sage that brings us a beautiful new color choice for using in plantings. For us this clone is thriving in our demonstration beds and bloomed in spring and fall. All of these sages are good for attracting native bees and butterflies.



- Size:** to two feet tall and wide
- Bloom:** lilac-violet spikes held on upright structures with contrasted black calyces
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** shape in late winter early spring to keep compact
- Water:** low

Salvia brandegeei 'Pacific Blue'
Santa Rosa Island sage

This is a darker flowered form of one of the most drought-tolerant species of California native sages. Blue flowers spaced in "whorls" along the flower stalk are nectar magnets for our native pipevine swallowtail butterflies.



- Size:** three to four feet tall and wide
- Bloom:** blue flowers in spring and early summer on one to two foot long stalks
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** cut back by one third in late summer or fall
- Water:** low water

Salvia chamaedryoides 'Marine Blue'
Germander sage

A low, rounded evergreen plant with silver-gray leaves that produces beautiful blue flowers over a long season. This selection is said to be the best grower.



- Size:** to two feet tall by three to four feet wide
- Bloom:** many intense blue flowers over the whole plant heaviest in spring and fall and intermittent during summer
- Sun/Shade:** full sun
- Pruning:** shear after bloom to remove old flower stalks and induce branching and rebloom.
- Water:** low water but blooms longer and better with extra

Salvia microphylla 'Little Kiss'
dwarf little kiss sage

An attractive, long-blooming and low-water shrubby sage with white and red bi-color flowers. It is more compact than the very popular *Salvia microphylla* 'Hot lips'. Salvias are attractive to hummingbirds and some native bees.

- Size:** to two to three feet tall and wide
- Bloom:** red and white bi-color flowers that bloom over a long season, but heaviest in spring and fall
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** shape when young to keep compact
- Water:** medium low



Scabiosa caucasica 'Vivid Violet'
purple scabiosa

This new, low-growing cultivar produces attractive purple button-like flowers over a long season from spring to fall atop lacy, green leaves. Use along a path or mixed with other lower growing perennials and stand back to watch the native bee and butterflies arrive!

- Size:** to seven inches tall and eighteen inches wide
- Bloom:** all summer into fall
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** none
- Water:** low



Salvia officinalis 'Berggarten'
compact common sage

This form of culinary sage has been selected for its pewter-colored, very rounded, broad foliage which forms an attractive, symmetrical "dome" of grey foliage useful for edging the front of the border.

- Size:** up to two feet tall and wide at maturity
- Bloom:** blue-purple flowers in late spring and early summer
- Sun/Shade:** sun
- Pruning:** prune to shape in late winter early spring
- Water:** low



Sedum album
white stonecrop

A flat growing, small-leaved succulent spreader with apple-green foliage and the sturdiness and vigor of a much larger plant. Creeping along the ground it makes a tight ground-cover that produces delicate white stars all over it in the summer. Propagate it by breaking off its stems and placing in soil. Easy!

- Size:** Two to five inches tall and creeping to one to two feet wide in a year.
- Bloom:** Tiny white stars cover the leaves in summer
- Sun/Shade:** sun or part shade
- Pruning:** none
- Water:** none



Photo by Flickr user: ecos de pedra

Salvia spathacea 'Las Pilitas'
low growing pitcher sage

This form of pitcher sage is lower-growing and earlier-blooming than other selections of this species. The plant can be recognized by its apple-green, narrow leaves that produce "shish-ka-bob" spikes of flowers visited by hummingbirds. Tough and easy to grow.

- Size:** About eighteen inches tall by four feet wide it will continue to spread over time
- Bloom:** Spring blooming, with pinkish red flowers on attractive whorled spikes.
- Sun/Shade:** shade or sun
- Pruning:**
- Water:** low



Solanum xanthii 'Mountain Pride'
California purple nightshade

This sprawling native sub-shrub has clusters of attractive purple flowers and furry green-gray leaves that need little or no irrigation once established.

- Size:** to two feet tall and wide
- Bloom:** clusters of purple flowers with yellow centers in winter and spring
- Sun/Shade:** part sun or shade
- Pruning:** prune back long stems to induce branching
- Water:** low to none



Sollya heterophylla 'Monterey Bay Sapphire'
sapphire bluebell creeper

A sprawling shrub that can be trained as a vine with support. This tough and drought-tolerant plant will grow in sun or shade and produces beautiful blue, bell-shaped flowers in spring and summer.



- Size:** two to three feet tall and four feet wide untrained, but with support will climb to six to eight feet.
- Bloom:** deeper blue and showier flowers than most strains produced in summer
- Sun/Shade:** sun or shade
- Pruning:** prune to desired shape
- Water:** low

Veronica umbrosa 'Georgia Blue'
Georgia blue speedwell

A creeping groundcover that produces attractive deep blue flowers in spring and bronze-maroon foliage in winter. It's perfect for the front of plantings, under bulbs and deciduous shrub like roses.



- Size:** forms a mat six to eight inches tall that spreads to several feet wide
- Bloom:** cobalt blue flowers in spring and a few other times of the year
- Sun/Shade:** sun or part shade
- Pruning:** none
- Water:** medium

Teucrium fruticans 'Azureum'
azure bush germander

A tough and drought-tolerant evergreen shrub with silvery foliage that is covered with dark blue flowers in winter and early spring. It can be sheared as a hedge or left in a looser open form.



- Size:** to four to five feet tall and eight feet wide if left unsheared.
- Bloom:** small but prolific blue flowers in winter and early spring
- Sun/Shade:** sun or part shade
- Pruning:** shear annually to shape and keep bushy--can be cut to the ground to rejuvenate
- Water:** low