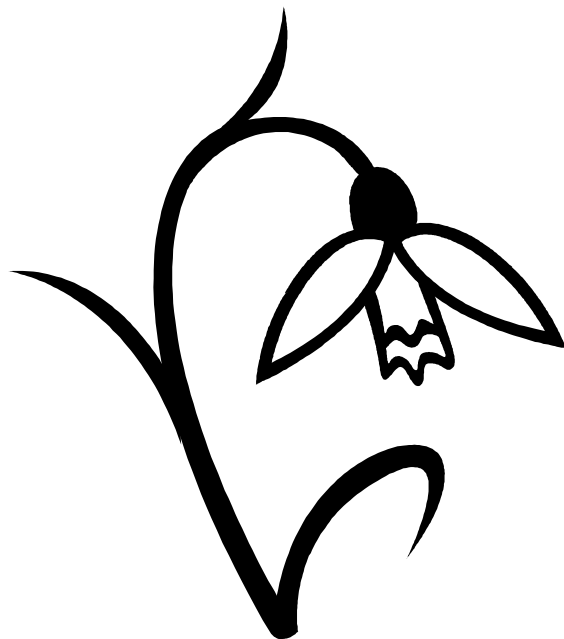




# Firewise Plants for Nevada County



## TREES, SHRUBS, PERENNIALS, ANNUALS, BULBS, GRASSES & GRASS LIKE PLANTS GENERALLY RECOGNIZED TO BE FIRE RESISTANT

The purpose of this plant list is to help you select **and place fire wise plants** for the different growing conditions of Truckee, CA (USDA zone 3) to Penn Valley, CA (USDA zone 9).

All plants listed are suitable for *Sunset Western Garden Guide* zone 7, or USDA zone 8, with lows of 10 to 20 degrees Fahrenheit.

### Three codings indicate further hardiness ratings:

- (1) No marking indicated plants that can be grown in all parts of the county.
- (2) The \* indicates plants that have at least one species for the entire county.
- (3) The ^ indicates plants that will not survive in the coldest areas.

## GREENBELT - THE FIREFIGHTER'S ALLY - IT'S THE LAW!

In 1963, the California Legislature enacted *Public Resources Code 4291* that sets **minimum** clearance standards of 30 to 100 feet, or to the property line from structures, whichever is nearer

First, remove flammable vegetation, including dry brush, living brush and exotic pyrophytes adjacent to structures. Then develop a landscape plan placing the highest water use plants closest to the structures.

Group low fuel-content plants in islands with low growing or no plants in between. Steeper slopes require greater distances between groups of plants or large specimens. Careful placement may even allow the use of some higher fuel content plants.

### Outdoor Fire Safety

When removing flammable vegetation and working outdoors be sure to observe outdoor fire safety practices. Such practices include:

- ? Be sure all equipment (chainsaws, lawnmowers, weed eaters) is equipped with a spark arrestor. These are available at your local hardware store and are very inexpensive.
- ? Do all yard work before noon in order to avoid creating a fire risk during the time of day when humidity is lowest and temperatures are highest.
- ? If clearing during the winter or spring months, be sure to be in possession of a valid burn permit and call to see if it has been declared a permissive burn day before burning any vegetation. To obtain a burn permit, contact your local fire station.

**Many thanks to Lynn Lorenson, Nevada County U.C.C.E. Master Gardener  
and Fire Safe Council of Nevada County Volunteer for creating this publication**

# Shade Water Conditions

## California Native Annuals

Red Ribbons, *Clarkia concinna*

Chinese Houses, *Collinsia spp.*

## EXOTIC ANNUALS

Fibrous spp. Treated as annual, *Begonia semperflorens*

Impatiens, *Impatiens wallerana*

Forget-Me-Not, *Myostis*

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PERENNIALS

Monkshood, *Aconitum spp.*

Venus Hair Fern, *Adiantum spp.* \*

Red Columbine, *Aquilegia Formosa*

Goats Beard, *Aruncus vulgaris*

Ginger, *Asarum spp.* ^

Lady Fern, *Athyrium filix femina* ^

Pacific Bleeding Heart, *Dicentra Formosa*

Iris, *Iris spp.* \*

Western Sword Fern, *Polystichum*

Skullcap, *Smilacina spp.*

Wake Robin, *Trillium spp.* \*

Giant Chain Fern, *Woodwardia fumbriata* ^

## EXOTIC PERENNIALS

Bears Breech, *Acanthus mollis* ^

Carpet Bugle, *Ajuga reptans*

Columbine, *Aquilegia spp.*

False Spirea, *Astilbe spp.*

Bergenia, *Bergenia*

Bell Flower, *Campanula spp.*

Lilly of the Valley, *Convallaria majalis*

Bleeding Heart, *Dicentra spectabilis*

Foxglove, *Digitalis spp.*

Wild Strawberry, *Fragaria chiloensis*

Sweet Woodruff, *Galium odoratum*

Coral Bells, *Heuchera spp.* \*

Blue Star Creeper, *Laurentia (Isotoma) fluiatilis* ^

## Shade Water Conditions, continued

Oxalis, Sorrel, *Oxalis* spp. ^

Purple Nightshade, *Solanum xanti* ^

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE SHRUBS

Sierra Kinnickinnick, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*

Oregon Grape, *Berberis aquilifolium*

Smooth Dogwood, *Cornus glabrata* ^

Western Dogwood, *Cornus occidentalis*

Western Burningbush, *Euonymus occidentalis*

Silk-Tassel, *Garrya* spp. \*

Salal, *Gaultheria shallon* ^

Mt. Cream Bush, *Holodiscus boursieri* ^

Twinberry, *Lonicera involucrate*

Thimbleberry, *Rubus parviflorus*

California Huckleberry, *Vaccinium ovatum* ^

### EXOTIC SHRUBS

Flowering Maple, *Abutilon* spp. ^

Cast Iron Plant, *Aspidistra elatior* ^

Camellia, *Camellia* spp. ^

Mexican Orange, *Choisya ternate* ^

Bush Morning Glory, *Convolvulus cneorum* ^

Daphne, *Daphne* spp. \*

Euonymus, *Euonymus* spp. \*

Hybrid Fuchsia, *Fuchsia hybrida* ^

Magellanica Fuchsia, *Fuchsia magellanica*

Gardenia, *Gardenia* spp. ^

Hydrangea, *Hydrangea* spp.

Oregon Grape, *Mahonia* spp.

Heavenly Bamboo, *Nandina domestica* ^

Lily of the Valley Shrub, *Pieris* spp. \*

Rhododendron & Azalea, *Rhododendron* spp. \*

Lilac, *Syringa* spp. \*

Viburnum, *Viburnum* spp. \*

## **CALIFORNIA NATIVE TREES**

Maple, *Acer spp.* \*

Alder, *Alnus spp.*

Sierra Dogwood, *Cornus nuttallii*

CA Bay, *Umbellularia californica* ^

## **EXOTIC TREES**

Maple, *Acer spp.* \*

Strawberry tree, *Arbutus unedo* ^

Dogwood, *Cornus spp.* \*

## **CALIFORNIA NATIVE BULBS & SUCCULENTS**

Fairy Lanterns, *Calochortus spp.* ^

Fawn Lily, *Erythronium spp.* \*

Iris, *Iris spp.* \*

Lily, *Lilium spp.* \*

## **EXOTIC BULBS & SUCCULENTS**

Lilly of the Valley, *Convallaria majalis*

Snowdrop, *Galanthus spp.*

Lily, *Lilium spp.* \*

Tulips, *Tulipa spp.* \*

## **CALIFORNIA GRASSES & GRASS-LIKE PLANTS**

Rush, *Juncus spp.* \*

## **EXOTIC GRASSES & GRASS-LIKE PLANTS**

Rush, *Juncus spp.* \*

Lily Turf, *Liriope spp.* ^

Mondo Grass, *Ophiopogon spp.* ^

Spiderwort, *Tradescantia virginiana*

# Shade Dry Conditions

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE ANNUALS

None

## EXOTIC ANNUALS

None

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PERENNIALS

Henderson's Shooting Star, *Dodecatheon hendersonii*.^

California Wood fern, *Dryopteris arguta*

Iris, *Iris spp.* ^

Pitcher Sage, *Lepechinia calycina* ^

Lupine, *Lupinus spp.* \*

Western Peony, *Paeonia brownii*

Pink, *Silene spp.*

## EXOTIC PERENNIALS

Japanese Painted fern, *Athyrium niponicum 'Pictum'*

Bellflower, *Campanula spp.*

Corsican, Foetid Helleborus, *Helleborus spp.*

*Hosta spp.*

Gladwin Iris, *Iris foetidissima* ^

Phlox, *Phlox paniculata*

Sword Fern, *Polystichum munitum*

Manzanita, *Arctostaphylos nummularia*

Gooseberry, Currant, *Ribes spp.*

Huckleberry oak, *Quercus vaccinifolia*

Snowberry, *Symphoricarpos*

## EXOTIC SHRUBS

Bishops Hat, *Epimedium spp.*

Heavenly Bamboo, *Nandina domestica* ^

Gooseberry, Currant, *Ribes spp.*

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE TREES

Interior Live Oak, *Quercus wislizenii*

## EXOTIC TREES

None

# Sun Water Conditions

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE ANNUALS

Farewell to Spring, *Clarkia spp.*

Douglas' Coreopsis, *Coreopsis douglasii*

Birds Eye, *Gilia spp.*

Arroyo Lupine, *Lupinus succulentus*

Baby Blue Eyes, Five Spot, *Nemophila spp.*

California Bells, Chinese Lanterns, *Phacelia spp.*

## EXOTIC ANNUALS

Dwarf Snapdragon, *Antirrhinum majus*

Wax Begonia, *Begonia semperflorens* ^

Pot Marigold, *Calendula officinalis*

Madagascar Periwinkle, *Catharanthus roseus*

Blue Lobelia, *Lobelia erinus*

Sweet Alyssum, *Lobularia maritima*

Forget-Me-Not, *Myosotis sylvatica*

Petunia, *Petunia hybrids*

Primrose, *Primula spp.*

French Marigold, *Tagetes patula*

Nasturtium, *Tropaeolum majus*

Viola, *Viola spp.*

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE SHRUBS

Plallid Service Berry, *Amelanchier spp.*

Manzanita, *Arctostaphylos spp* \*.

Tree Anemone, *Carpenteria californica* ^

Ceanothus, *Ceanothus spp.* \*

Buttonwillow, *Cephalanthus occidentalis* ^

Xmas Berry, *Heteromeles arbutifolia* ^

Ca. Mock Orange, *Philadelphus lewisii var californica* ^

Ninebark, *Physocarpus capitatus* ^

Western Choke Cherry, *Prunus virginiana var demissa*

Gooseberry, *Ribes spp.* \*

Spiraea, *Spiraea spp.* \*

## Sun Water Conditions, continued

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE TREES

Box Elder, *Acer negundo* var, *californicum*

White alder, *Alnus rhombifolia*

Foothill Ash, *Fraxinus dipetala* ^

Western Sycamore, *Platanus racemosa* ^

Fremont Poplar, *Populus fremontii* ^

Quaking Aspen, *P. tremuloides*

Red Elderberry, *Sambucus callicarpa* ^

Blue Elderberry, *Sambucus mexicana*

### EXOTIC TREES

Mountain Alder, *Alnus tenuifolia*

Service Berry, *Amelanchier* spp.

Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*

Filbert, *Corylus avellana*

Crape Myrtle, *Lagerstromia indica* ^

Magnolia, *Magnolia* spp. \*

Crabapple, *Malus* spp. \*

Plane tree, *Platanus* spp, \*

Aspen, Cottonwood, Poplar, *Populus* spp. \*

Flowering Pear, *Pyrus* spp. \*

### EXOTIC SHRUBS

Japanese Boxwood, *Buxus microphylla* ^

Barberry, *Berberis* spp.

Cotoneaster, *Cotoneaster* spp.\*

Escallonia, *Escallonia* spp. ^

Pineapple Guava, *Feijoa sellowiana* ^

Holly, *Ilex* spp. ^

Heavenly Bamboo, *Nandina* spp. ^

Cherry, *Prunus* spp.\*

Pomegranate, *Punica* spp.^

Spiraea, *Spiraea* spp. \*

Viburnum, *Viburnum* spp. \*

# Sun Dry Conditions

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE ANNUALS

California Poppy, *Escholzia californica*

Tidy Tips, *Layia platyglossa*

Lupine, *Lupinus spp.*

Monkey Flower, *Mimulus spp.*

Purple Tansy, *Phacelia tanacetifolia*

Chia, *Salvia columbariae*

Windy Poppy, *Stylomecon hertophylla*

## EXOTIC ANNUALS

Shirley Poppy, *Papavar rhoeas*

Marigold, *Tagetes lemmonii*

Mullen, *Verbascum spp.*

Zinnia, *Zinnia spp.*

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PERENNIALS

Horsemint, *Agastache urticifolia*

Purple Milkweed, *Asclepias cordifolia*

Delphinium, *Delphinium spp.* \*

St. Catherine's Lace, *Eriogonum spp.* \*

Blanket Flower, *Gaillardia aristata*

Blue Flax, *Linum lewisii*

Lupine, *Lupinus spp.* \*

Monkey Flower, *Mimulus spp.* \*

Coyote Mint, *Monardella villosa*

Primrose, *Oenothera spp.* \*

Matija Poppy, *Romneya coulteri* ^

Sage, *Salvia spp.* \*

## EXOTIC PERENNIALS

Wooly Yarrow, *Achillae tomentosa*

Basket of Gold, *Alyssum saxatile*

Thrift, *Armera maritime*

Caucasian Sage Brush, *Artemisia caucasica*

Red Valerian, *Centranthus ruber* ^

## Sun Dry Conditions, continued

Indian Mock Strawberry, *Duchesnea indica*

Flea Bane, *Erigeron "speciosus" \**

Red Hot Poker, *Kniphofia uvaria*

Statice, *Limonium latifolium \**

Beard Tongue, *Penstemon spp. \**

Russian Sage, *Perovskia 'Blue Spire'*

*Santolina spp.*

Stonecrop, *Sedum spp. \**

Dusty Miller, *Senecio spp. \**

*Salvia spp. \**

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE SHRUBS

California Barberries, *Berberis spp.*

California Lilac, *Ceanothus spp. \**

Western Redbud, *Cercis occidentalis ^*

Flannel Bush, *Fremontodendron californicum ^*

Silk Tassel, *Garrya spp. \**

Toyon, *Heteromeles arbutifolia ^*

Monkey Flower, *Mimulus spp. \**

Hollyleaf Cherry, *Prunus ilicifolia ^*

California Coffeeberry, *Rhamnus californica ^*

Lemonade Berry, Sugar, Squash Bush, *Rhus spp. ^*

Spirea, *Spirea spp. \**

## EXOTIC SHRUBS

Strawberry Tree, *Arbutus unedo ^*

California Lilac, *Ceanothus spp. \**

Rock Rose, *Cistus spp. ^*

Cotoneaster, *Cotoneaster spp. \**

Pineapple Guava, *Feijoa sellowiana ^*

St. Johnswort, *Hypericum spp. ^*

Myrtle, *Myrtus spp. ^*

Heavenly Bamboo, *Nandina domestica ^*

Hollyleaf Osmanthus, *Osmanthus heterophyllus ^*

Firethorn, *Pyracantha spp.*

Senecio, *Senecio greyi \**

California Buckeye, <i>Aesculus californica</i> ^
Alder <i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>
Madrone, <i>Arbutus menziesii</i> *
Blue Oak, <i>Quercus douglasii</i>
Black Oak, <i>Quercus kelloggii</i> ^
Interior Live Oak, <i>Quercus wislizenii</i> ^
<b>EXOTIC TREES</b>
Silk Tree, <i>Albizia julibrissin</i> ^
Alder <i>Alnus tenuifolia</i>
Strawberry Tree, <i>Arbutus unedo</i> ^
Ash, <i>Fraxinus spp.</i> *
Honey Locust, <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>
Sargent Cherry <i>Prunus sargentii</i>
<b>CALIFORNIA NATIVE BULBS &amp; SUCCULENTS</b>
Onion, <i>Allium spp.</i> *
Brodiaea, <i>Brodiaea spp.</i> *
Mariposa Tulips, Globe Tulips, <i>Calochortus spp.</i> ^
Soap Plant, <i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i> ^
Stonecrop, <i>Sedum spp.</i> *
Camas, <i>Zigadenus spp.</i> *
<b>EXOTIC BULBS &amp; SUCCULENTS</b>
Most bulbs, such as Tulips, Narcissus, and Hyacinths do best in dry summer conditions & provide a low fuel level. Fall crocus and alliums are also low fuel choices. Many hardy succulents are available from local nurseries and mail order sources, see source list.
<b>CALIFORNIA GRASSES &amp; GRASS-LIKE PLANTS</b>
Blue Wildrye, <i>Elymus spp.</i> ^
Needlegrass, <i>Nassella spp.</i> *
Fescue <i>Festuca spp.</i> *
CA Onion Grass, <i>Melica spp.</i> ^
Bluegrass, <i>Poa spp.</i> *
<b>EXOTIC GRASSES &amp; GRASS-LIKE PLANTS</b>
Blue Avena Grass, <i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>
Prairie Sky Switch, <i>Panicum virgatum</i> ^

# Pyrophytes

## ARE EXTREMELY COMBUSTIBLE

Characteristics of plants not recommended for fire prone areas:

- ? a high surface area to volume ratio
- ? a low moisture content
- ? a high percentage of dead matter or debris

Plants marked with a **P** are extremely combustible. These plants should be avoided or used with great care as to proximity to structures or other plants. Others on this list should only be used with proper maintenance and clearing.

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE & EXOTIC TREES

(Limb up to 10 feet above the ground)

Fir, *Abies spp.*

Cedar, *Cedrus spp.* \*

Cypress, Cedar, *Chamaecyparis spp.* (except dwarf) ^

Cypress, *Cupressus spp.* ^

Larch, *Larix*

Spruce, *Picea spp.*

Pine, *Pinus spp.* (including g dwarf) \*

Arborvitae, *Thuja spp.*

Hemlock, *Tsuga spp.*

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE & EXOTIC GROUNDCOVERS

(Avoid using near structures, shrubs, or trees)

Coyote Bush, *Baccharis spp.* (when overgrown)  
**P ^**

Algerian Ivy, *Hedera canariensis* ^

Juniper, *Juniper spp.* **P \***

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE & EXOTIC SHRUBS

(Avoid or use only with proper clearing & maintenance)

Chamise, Greasewood, *Adenostoma fasciculatum* **P**

Red Shanks, *Adenostoma sparsifolium* **P**

California Sagebrush, *Artemisia californica*

Brooms, *Cytisus*, *Genista*, *Spartium*

Hopseed Bush, *Dodonaea viscosa* ^

Buckwheat, *Eriogonum spp.* ^

Juniper, *Juniperus spp.* **P \***

Chaparral Pea, *Pickeringia montana* **P ^**

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE & EXOTIC GRASSES, PERENNIALS, & VINES

(Avoid using these pyrophytes)

Bamboo, *Bamboo spp.* **P \***

Pampas Grass, *Cortaderia selloana* **P ^**

Japanese Honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica* **P**

Eulalia Grass, *Miscanthus* ^

Deer Grass, *Muhlenbergia spp.* \*

Fountain Grass, *Pennisetum setaceum* **P ^**

Black Sage, *Salvia mellifera* **P**

# Sources of Fire Wise Plants

**Local Nurseries-** carry a good assortment of fire-wise plants, both native and exotic. Your full service nurseries also special order plants.

## Seasonally Available Sources

**CNPS California Native Plant Society**, Redbud Chapter hosts a Spring and Fall sale of native plants on the Sierra College Grounds

**U.C.C.E. Master Gardeners of Nevada County** hosts periodic plant sales offering native and exotic plants.

## Catalog Sources for Native and Hard to Find Plants & Seeds

### Resources:

**Hortus West**, The Native Plant Source Directory  
(800) 704-7927

This is a twice yearly publication, now listing nation wide sources for seeds & plants

**Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Research Center**

(formerly National Wildflower Research Center)  
2600 FM 973 North  
Austin, TX 78725  
(512) 929-3600

**Theodore Payne Foundation**

10459 Tuxford St.  
Sun Valley, CA 91352  
(818)768-1802

## Sources of Fire Wise Plants, continued

### Seeds:

<p><b>California Native Grass Assn.</b>  P.O. Box 72450 Davis, CA 95617-6405  886-456-CNGA (toll free)  Web site: <a href="http://www.cnga.org">http://www.cnga.org</a></p>	<p><b>Forest Seeds of California</b>  1100 Indian Hill Road  Placerville, CA 95667  (530) 621-1551</p>
<p><b>Callahan Seed</b>  6045 Foley Lane  Central Point, OR 97502  (541) 855-1164</p>	<p><b>Larner Seeds</b>  PO Box 407  Bolinas, CA 94924  (415) 868-9407</p>
<p><b><u>Clyde Robin Seed Company</u></b>  3670 Enterprise Avenue  Hayward, CA 94545</p>	<p><b><u>Sierra Seed Supply</u></b>  PO Box 42  Greenville, CA 94947  (530) 284-7926</p>
<p><b>Comstock Seed</b>  8520 W. 4th Street  (702) 746-3681</p>	<p><b>Wildseed Farms</b>  PO Box 3000  Fredericksburg, TX 78624  (800) 848-0078</p>

### Native and hard to find plants:

<p><b>Far West Bulb Farms</b>  (530) 272-4775  nancyames@accessbee.com</p>	<p><b><u>Raintree Nursery</u></b>  391 Butts Rd  Morton, WA 98356  (360) 496-6400</p>
<p><b><u>High Country Gardens</u></b>  2902 Rufina Street  Santa Fe, NM 87505  (800) 925-9387</p>	<p><b>Robinett Bulb Farm</b>  PO Box 1306  Sebastopol, CA 95473  (707) 829-2729</p>
<p><b>One Green World</b>  28696 S. Cramer Road  Molalla, OR 97038  (877) 353-4208</p>	<p><b>Weiss Brothers Hardy Perennial Nursery</b>  11690 Colfax Hwy.  Grass Valley, VS 95945  (530) 272-7657</p>

## References

<p>California's I-Zones January 1996 CFESTES Book Store 7171 Bowling Drive Sacramento, CA 95823</p>	<p>Center for Urban Forest Research, <i>ecoSmart</i> a web based, precision design tool, coming soon. <a href="http://cufr.ucdavis.edu/research/studies.asp?TopicID=8">http://cufr.ucdavis.edu/research/studies.asp?TopicID=8</a></p>
<p>Crampton, Beecher, <i>Grasses in California, California Natural History Guides: 33</i> University of California Press Berkeley Los Angeles London, 1974</p>	<p>Flora &amp; Forest, <i>Plants for Firescaping in Western Nevada Count</i>, 14041 Agony Hill Road, Grass Valley, Ca 95945, (530) 477-5509</p>
<p>Gilmer, Maureen, <i>California Wildfire Landscaping</i> Dallas TX: Taylor Publishing Co. 1994</p>	<p>Greenlee, J., <i>The Encyclopedia of Ornamental Grasses</i> Rodale Press, Emmaus PA, 1992</p>
<p>Hagan, Bruce W., <i>Trees &amp; Shrubs Generally Recognized to be Fire Resistant</i> CA Department of Forestry &amp; Fire Protection Coast-Cascade Region, 135 Ridgeway Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95401</p>	<p>Needham, Jeanette, <i>Fire Safe Landscaping #17</i> January 1996 TREE NOTES CA Department of Forestry &amp; Fire Protection CDF Resource Management 776 Suite 107 Ukiah, CA 9548</p>
<p>Nevada County U.C.C.E. Master Gardeners, <i>Western Nevada County Gardening Guide</i> 255 S. Auburn St. Grass Valley, CA 95945, 2003</p>	<p>Pavlik, B., Muick, P., et al, <i>Oaks of California</i> Chronicle Books Los Olivos, CA, 1991</p>
<p>PSU Research Station, USDA Forest Service c/o Dept. of Env. Hort. Suite 1103, One Shields Ave. Davis, CA 95616, 1-530-752-7636, <a href="mailto:cufr@ucdavis.edu">cufr@ucdavis.edu</a></p>	<p><i>Sunset Western Garden Book</i> Sunset Publishing Corporation Menlo Park, CA, 2000</p>
<p>Schmidt, Marjorie G., <i>Growing California Native Plants, California Natural History Guide: 45</i> University of California Press Berkeley Los Angeles London 1980</p>	<p><i>Vegetation Guide, Defensible Space Landscaping in the Urban/Wildland Interface: A compilation of fire performance ratings of residential landscape plants</i> <a href="http://www.prefire.ucfpl.ucop.edu/vegetati.htm">http://www.prefire.ucfpl.ucop.edu/vegetati.htm</a></p>
<p>UC FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY <a href="http://www.ucfpl.ucop.edu">http://www.ucfpl.ucop.edu</a></p>	



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