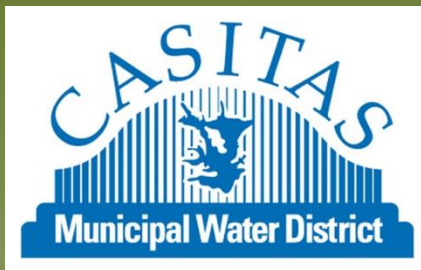


Designing with California Native Plants

Cinnamon McIntosh
Casitas MWD



Designing with California Native Plants

Today's Questions:

- WHAT are “native plants”?
- WHY go native?
- WHAT should be considered in design?
- WHERE to find plant info?
- WHICH plants will work?
- WHEN to go native in the garden?
- WHERE to get plants?

What are Native Plants?

For this presentation's purposes, Native Plants are plant species, or hybridized versions, whose lineage is indigenous to our general location and climate, preceding European settlement of the region.

Can it grow in a nursery and still be native?

Native to our communities?

Native to our State?

Endemic only?

Native = no hybrids?

Coast Sunflower

Island Snap Dragon

California Lilac

Christmas Berry

Gooseberry

Fuchsia

Honeysuckle

Grape



Why go Native in the Garden?



How Did Lawn-Loving Start?

BRITISH COLONIALISM AND STATUS



If you had no constraints financially, and unlimited maintenance staff, which would you choose? Windsor castle or a Terrace House (Row House) near Leicester?

EASTERN U.S. POLITICAL PROMINANCE



George Washington, Mount Vernon (Virginia); Thomas Jefferson, Monticello (Virginia); James Madison, Montpelier (Virginia); Andrew Jackson, The Hermitage (Tennessee)

1950S "AFFLUENZA", THE "AMERICAN DREAM", AND SUBURBIA



Times

Vol. 1—No. 44 LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1953 Price 5c

Levitt Plans Low-priced Homes 'Suitable for Any Wage Earner'

Local Churchmen Disclose Future Construction Plans

A number of Levittown's churches in Levittown and expect construction met the press Tuesday to hold their church building plans for the community.

Represented at the meeting were the Lutheran, Reformed, Presbyterian and Episcopalian denominations, all of which have already selected sites for their churches.

'I Know Nothing' Says Wm. Levitt About Authority

The Middletown-Berks County Authority, which last week received the green light from 2000 voters to build a new town, is now beginning to acquire and develop sites for the municipality's services, one referred to by William H. Levitt, president of Levitt and Sons, Inc., as a "paper operation" since it has no actual authority.

STOOD-UP, BUT HAPPY!

A hotel priced lower than the Levittown will be built here in the near future, William Levitt, president of Levitt and Sons, Inc., personally announced Tuesday.

He would not reveal the selling price of identical low-cost dwellings, but said it would be "suitable for any wage-earner in the area."

The head of the building firm stated that the plans were prompted by a "market for low priced housing in this area."

Some Safety Qualifications

"I've got a hunch that people will go wild about it as soon as the price is announced," he said. "Anyone wanting \$12 a week will be qualified to buy it."

The new type houses, which will come in four different models, is now being constructed for exhibition at the Levittown Rabbinic Center, and is expected to be opened to the public the weekend of April 25.

The builder would not discuss any of the specifications of the houses, but said they will be built



Post-WWII America; Levittown and the streamlining of development (idea that everything can be Engineered to be more "efficient"); Planned Communities and Suburbia

1950S "AFFLUENZA", THE "AMERICAN DREAM", AND SUBURBIA



Post-WWII America; Levittown and the streamlining of development; Planned Communities and Suburbia

1950S "AFFLUENZA", THE "AMERICAN DREAM", AND SUBURBIA



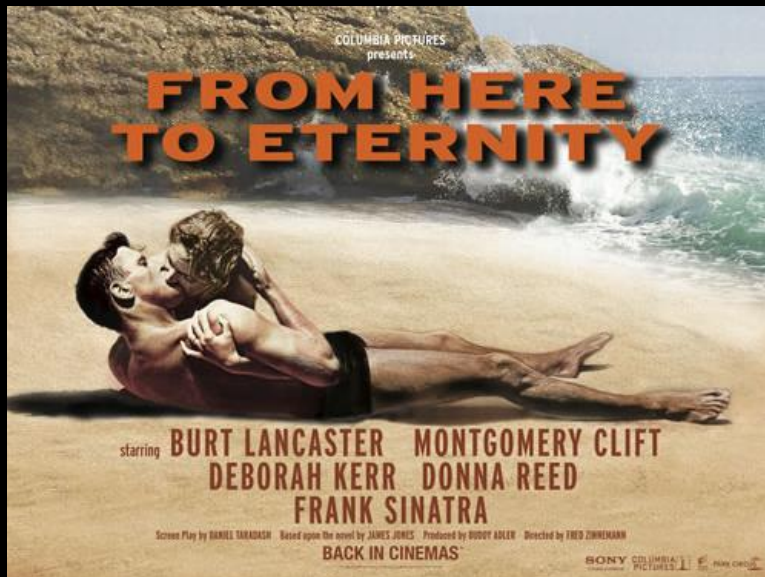
Which one is mine?

1950S "AFFLUENZA", THE "AMERICAN DREAM", AND SUBURBIA IN SO. CAL.



City Hall, Ventura, California in the 1950s (postcard)

THE RISE OF TIKI CULTURE, HAWAIIANA,
AND THE 1960S SURF POP CULTURE



Idea of the Polynesian Paradise; Don the Beachcombers; From Here to Eternity (1953); Blue Hawaii (1961); Gidget Goes Hawaiian (1961); Hawaii (1966); Endless Summer (1966); Hawaii 5 - 0 (1968)

HAWAIIAN IDEALISM INFLUENCES
THE CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE



HAWAIIAN IDEALISM INFLUENCES THE CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE



Top Row: The Royal Hawaiian Hotel, Waikiki Beach
Bottom Row: The Beverly Hills Hotel, Los Angeles California

LOOK AT THE HILLSIDE !!!

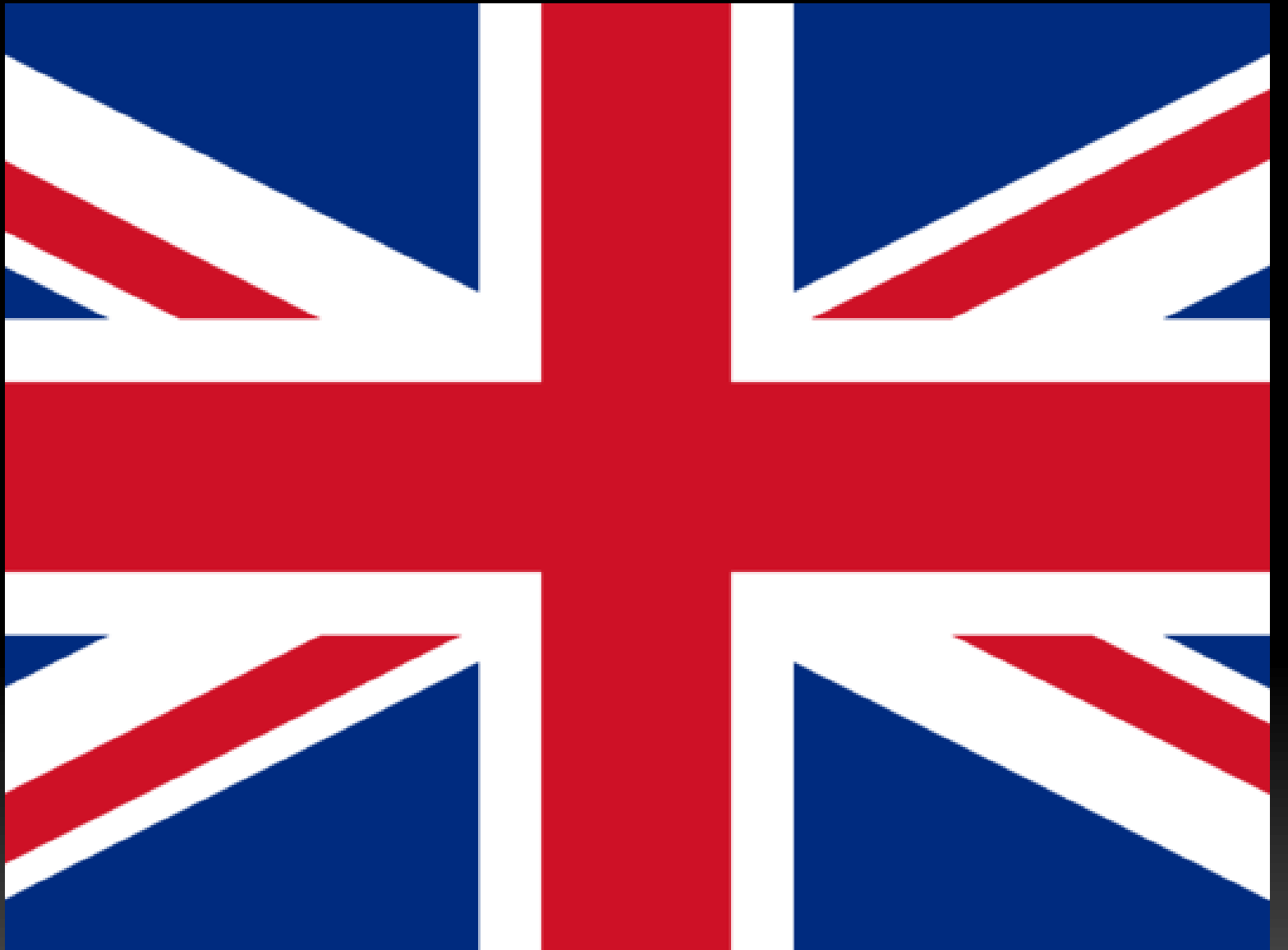


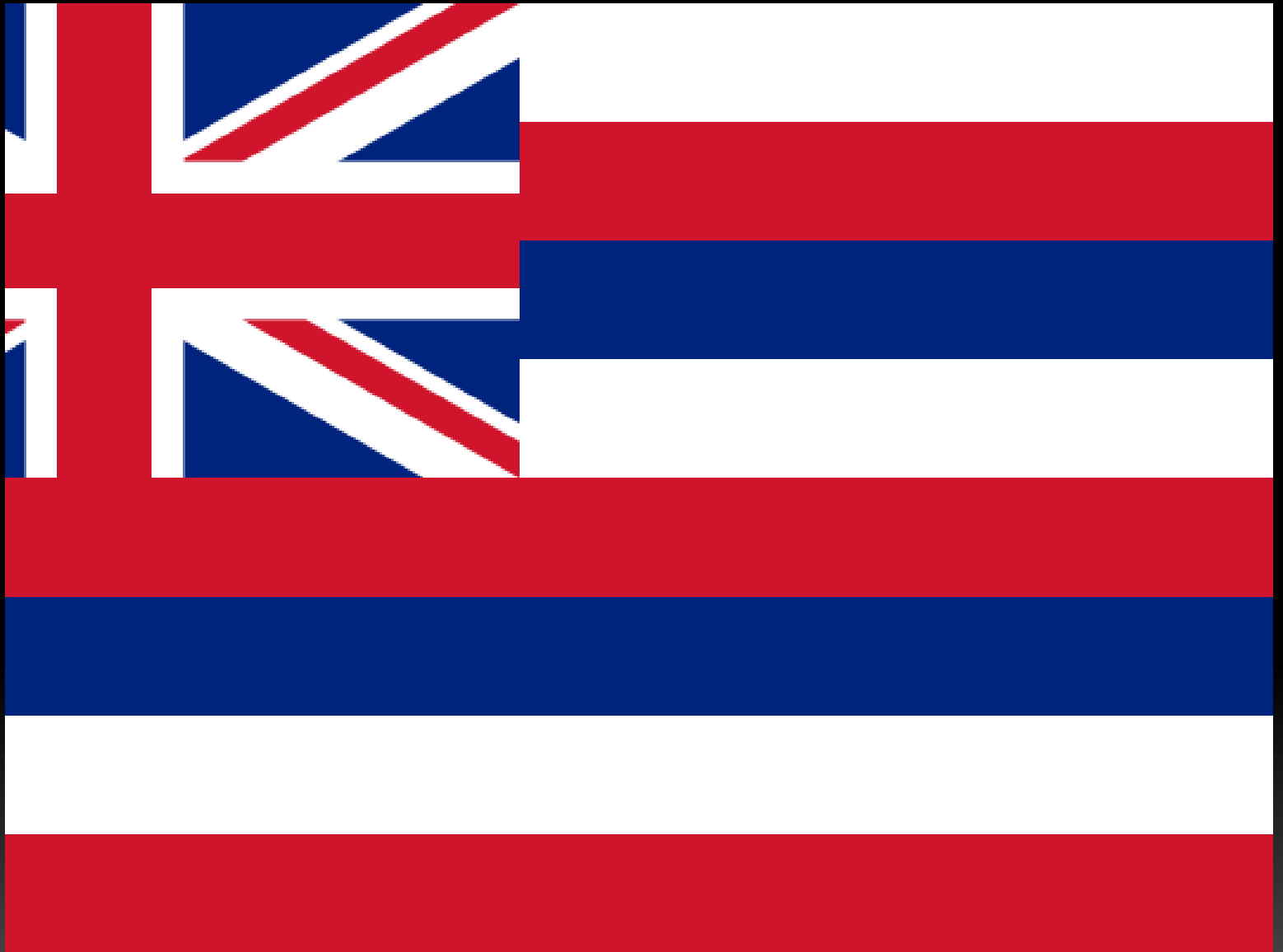
City Hall, Ventura, California in the 1950s (postcard)

LOOK AT THE HILLSIDE !!!



City Hall, Ventura, California in the 1950s (postcard)







CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC

Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: Ringtail (a.k.a. the Ringtail Cat or Miner's Cat)

Crash Course in Landscape Design

A. “Stop, Look, and Listen” in YOUR yard – not at the pretty plants at the nursery. Start with **YOU**! Your hopes and dreams, your garden’s failures...

- **Know the Site:** log the sun’s movement, and shade fall, throughout the day, maybe through out the season
- **Know your Goals:** determine your motivating factors and sub-factors (beauty? privacy? Outdoor “rooms”? views from inside? other?)
- **Know your Style:** determine your personal and architectural style (Formal? English cottage? Japanese? Zen? Contemporary? Southwestern? Botanic? Naturalistic?)
- **Know the Competition:** look up other examples of your chosen style online and in magazines, collecting good ideas as you go

Crash Course in Landscape Design: Worksheet

- **Quiet Moment to Recollect**
- **Worksheet:** Front side of Sheet, Questions #1 - #3

#1: describe the space in terms of light/shade:

full sun = 6 hours or more of direct sunlight
partial shade = some direct sunlight
full shade = no direct sunlight

#2: list three goals (at least) that you have for the space:

#3: state your desired landscape design style:

English Cottage, Formal, Contemporary,
Japanese, Zen, Southwestern, Meadow,
Botanic, Naturalistic

Crash Course in Landscape Design: Worksheet

- **Quiet Moment to Recollect**
- **Worksheet:** Backside of Sheet

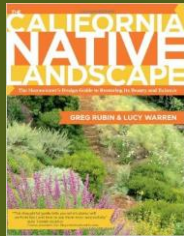
#1: Sketch the basic shape of the space you are considering re-doing: include edges of property in area, walls/windows of house in area, any existing hardscape you will be keeping

#2: Sketch in the basic irrigation system you already have in place (unless you KNOW you will be ripping it out): where is the controller/timer? Lay out the basic irrigation lines. Place in the heads/drip emitters.

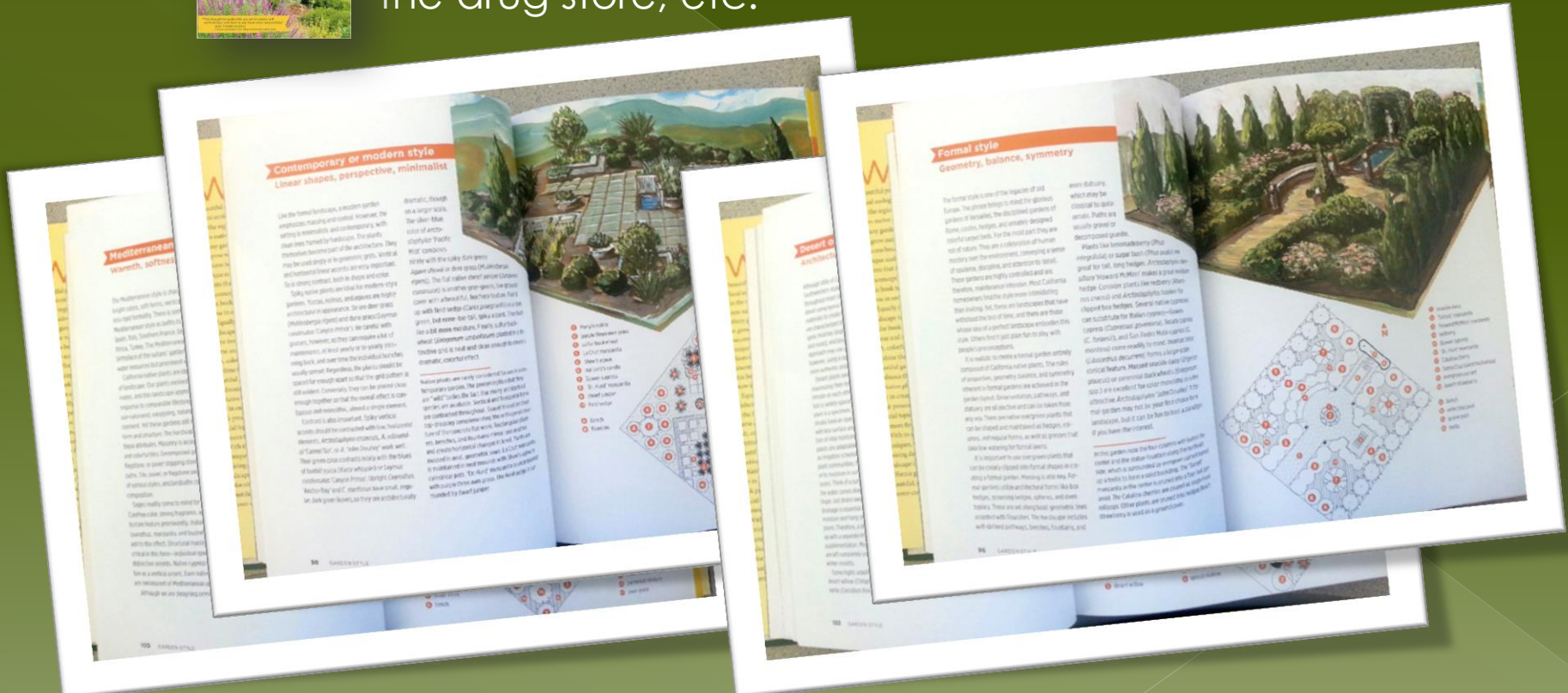
#3: Sketch in your existing plants: make different size circle or ameba shapes to indicate the scale roughly, code or label the different species

HOMWORK ASSIGNMENT 1

Research Garden Styles if they are unfamiliar or you are still undecided...



use the internet, use the library, use the checkout Lane at the grocery store, visit the bookstore, visit the drug store, etc.



Crash Course in Landscape Design

B. Work with what you already have in place (if possible). Complete “re-do”s can be time consuming and expensive – whether you are having contractors in or you are DIY.

- **Assess existing plant materials** – If a plant’s water or maintenance needs are excessive, let it go
- **Assess existing irrigation system/methods** – run a complete irrigation system check, look at every valve and every head, physically note problems
- **Assess existing land uses** – the hardiest plant in the world cannot withstand a careless Labrador’s constant trampling

Crash Course in Landscape Design: Worksheet

- **Quiet Moment to Recollect**
- **Worksheet:** Back side of Sheet

Erase plants that will not be staying

Erase irrigation systems that are not working well or need repair/replacement

Make note of unavoidable land use considerations

Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: Northern Elephant Seal

A Word or Two on Irrigation



The Natural Scenario:

- Mimicking Mother Nature's water delivery system - RAIN
- Wash off plants and leaves occasionally (to remove dust, insects, etc.)
- Penetrate mulch to evenly saturate the soil around the plants
- Irrigation coverage for entire root structure

A Word or Two on Irrigation

- Imitate thundershowers in summer on hot, humid days – but avoid consistently warm, wet soil base as it encourages the wrong microscopic organism communities
- Irrigate foliage in morning or late afternoon to avoid “burning” the leaf structure, also to avoid mold and mildew
- Under a normal rain year, very few irrigation cycles at all (maybe 4 cycles TOTAL?)

A Word or Two on Irrigation

Ideal System:

- Best Overhead Spray = rotating heads, like MP Rotator series from Hunter, Toro's Precision series, etc.
- High up on 12" pop ups or risers
- Fine tune "Arc Adjustment" and "Radius"
- Flexible Swing Joints to resist damage to heads/pipe
- Even distribution through slow application rate (.4"/hr)
- Irrigation Controller complex enough to allow monthly cycles
- Rain Shut Off Feature or Moisture Sensor Connection

A Word or Two on Irrigation

Non - Ideal System (Working with what you already have):

- **Drip System in place**
 - **Potential Issues:** critter damage, UV light damage, system pressure damage, two inch square marsh biome, dry ground everywhere else, dust and insects never washed from leaves
 - **Solution:** convert to micro spray heads
- **Older Sprinkler System in place**
 - **Potential Issues:** critter damage, system pressure damage, overspray/underspray patterns (bad Distribution Uniformity), cracked heads, broken lines
 - **Solution:** replace bad parts, repair lines, plant accordingly

A Word or Two on Irrigation

Non - Ideal System (Working with what you already have):

- **No Irrigation System at all**
 - **Potential Issues:** dead plants, dust and insects never washed from leaves, too expensive to install a new one
 - **Solution:** basin/hose irrigation ~OR~ hose-end oscillators BOTH situations under constant supervision and bib timers
- **Already Established Irrigation system everywhere else**
 - **Solution:** basin/hose irrigation ~OR~ hose-end oscillators BOTH situations under constant supervision and bib timers

Share with the Group: What Other Problems are YOU Facing?

HOMework ASSIGNMENT 2

Go home and run your irrigation system – each station for 5 minutes – while you walk the property looking for trouble ...

Is there ponding anywhere? Geysers anywhere? Does the spray look even or do some heads look blocked from inside (clogged heads)? Are any plants preventing the irrigation system spray from reaching its intended target? If you have a slope, is all the water just running down your slope into the gutter? Is there low-head drainage when you turn the system off (might need check valves)? Listen to the irrigation valves opening and shutting – do they sound like they open or close easily or is there hissing or a delay? (solenoids may be failing)

Take notes. Call Casitas for a free home survey and mention your irrigation problems if it is something you can't diagnose on your own.

Deep Breath Slide

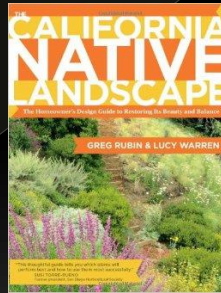


CA Native Species: Sea Otter

Basic Design Concepts

Foundation and Structure: the “backbone” of your landscape

- “The key to long-lasting beauty is a solid backbone of evergreen plants with foliar color that compliments the building and the hardscape.”
- “Think of landscape design as a study in proportion and mass.”



~ **Greg Rubin**, p.61

The California Native Landscape:

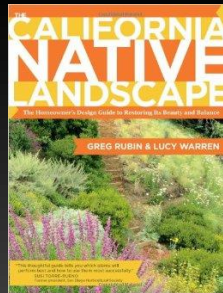
The Homeowner's Design Guide to Restoring Its Beauty and Balance

- Masses and voids – scale and height (consider plant height and width at maturity. What shade will it cast?)
- To mound or not to mound – potential problems
- Garden “rooms” – hidden potential

Basic Design Concepts

Foundation and Structure: continued

- “The basic structure of a native landscape should be proportioned as follows: 60 – 70% of the plants should be a handful of evergreen species with nice foliar color, texture, size, and habit. Next, 20 – 30% should be colorful, small-scale perennials that bloom at different times of the year, sited mostly along the edges. The remaining 10 – 20% can be specimen plants and trees, employed as accents, and larger-scale feature plants.”



~ Greg Rubin, p.66

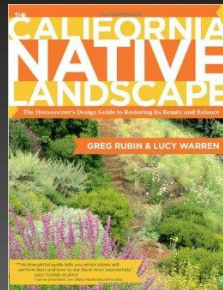
The California Native Landscape:

The Homeowner's Design Guide to Restoring Its Beauty and Balance

Basic Design Concepts

Massing and Repetition: ties the design together

- “Massing is grouping the same species of plants together to create swaths of color and texture. This ties the design together, creating flow and drama.”
- “...Repetition, using the same plant in multiple places in the landscape. Just as nature seeds the same plants in multiple areas, repeated use of a plant creates visual consistency.”
- “The rule of thumb is to group odd numbered multiples, but it is possible to have a large mass in one area with smaller repetitions in other places, creating visual flow and balance.”



~ Greg Rubin, p.66

The California Native Landscape:

The Homeowner's Design Guide to Restoring Its Beauty and Balance

Basic Design Concepts

Color, Contrast, and Texture:

- Color goes beyond “flower color”: leaves, stems, and berries
- Consider leaf size and shape
- Consider the seasons – what is happening when?

Non-Plant Features:

- **Pathways:** color, texture, location
- **Furniture:** new bench, new outdoor dining room
- **Rocks/Boulders:** works very well in Ojai Valley
- **Dry Streams/Bioswales:** be careful with these
- **Art:** rock stacks, sculptures, whimsy



Lynn Brown-Reynolds
Otay Water District



Vallecitos Water District

Joe & Mary
Bochiechio





Helix Water District

John & Kim Sowers



Vista Irrigation District

Darlene Lubkay





Santa Fe Irrigation District

Helen Dizio



Vallecitos Water District

Jared Beck





Olivenhain Municipal
Water District

Bobbi & Gene Hirschkoft



Otay Water District

Kay & Vincent McGrath





City of Poway

Nick & Stephanie
Kellar



Sweetwater Authority

Brant Toogood









Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: California Tiger Salamander
Santa Barbara and Sonoma County

SMALL TREES

Some Common Uses:

- Foundation plant to provide evergreen foliage
- Structure to provide proportion
- Screening for privacy or sound
- Focus specimen for curb appeal
- Ornamental feature anywhere
- Shade
- Wildlife Habitat: food and shelter for birds

Red Bud

Dr. Hurd Manzanita

Ray Hartman Ceanothus

Toyon (a.k.a. Christmas Berry)



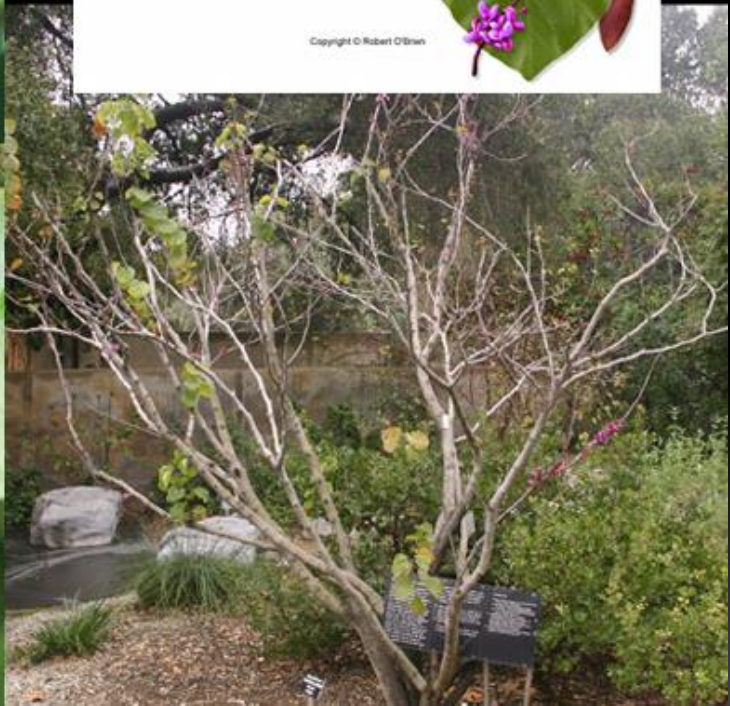
SMALL TREES: RED BUD



Red Bud (*Cercis occidentalis*): deciduous, pink flowers in late winter/early spring, heart-shaped leaves, 15' tall



SMALL TREES: RED BUD



Red Bud (*Cercis occidentalis*): photos from CalPoly SLO, Urban Forest Ecosystem Institute [http://ufei.calpoly.edu]

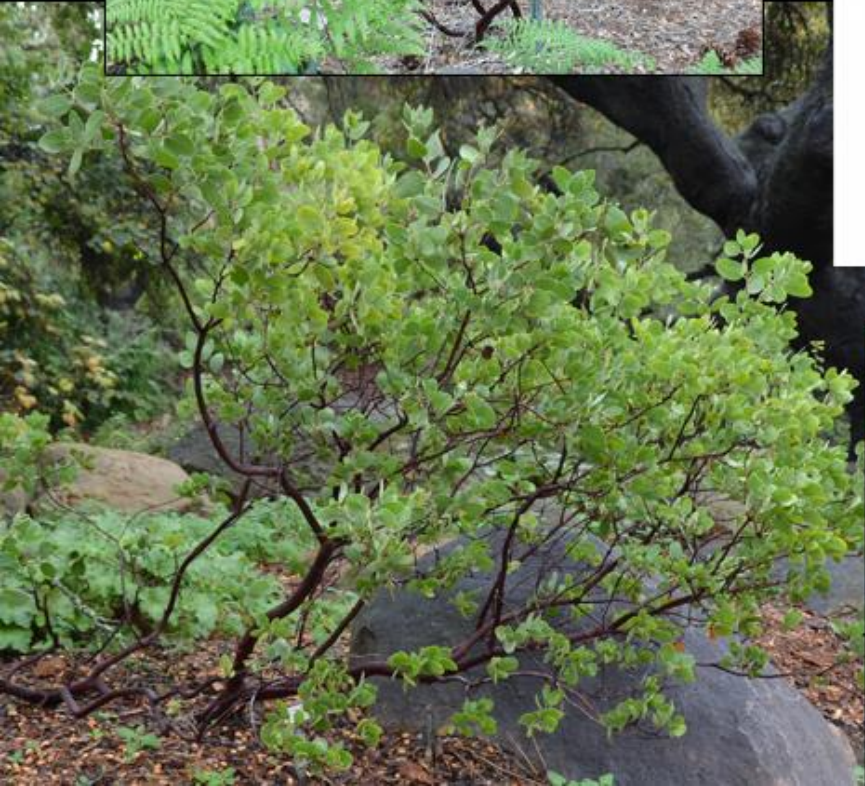


SMALL TREES: "DR. HURD" MANZANITA



"Dr. Hurd" Manzanita (*arctostaphylos* spp. 'Dr. Hurd'): evergreen, relatively fast growing (3 feet/yr), 15 – 18' tall

SMALL TREES: "DR. HURD" MANZANITA.



"Dr. Hurd" Manzanita: can trim to reveal trunk to form tree or let grow into larger shrub, birds love berries (ufe i photos)



SMALL TREES: RAY HARTMAN C.



“Ray Hartman” Ceanothus: California Lilac, evergreen, blue flowers in spring, rapid growth, up to 20’



SMALL TREES: TOYON



Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*): large screening shrub, small tree, or topiary, white flowers in spring with red berries in winter



SMALL TREES: TOYON

Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*): large screening shrub, small tree, or topiary, white flowers in spring with red berries in winter

Medium to Large Shrubs

Some Common Uses:

- Foundation plant to provide evergreen foliage
- Structure to provide proportion
- Screening for privacy or sound
- Focus specimen for curb appeal
- Shade
- Wildlife Habitat: food and shelter for birds

Lots of other Ceanothus

Coffeeberry

Lemonadeberry

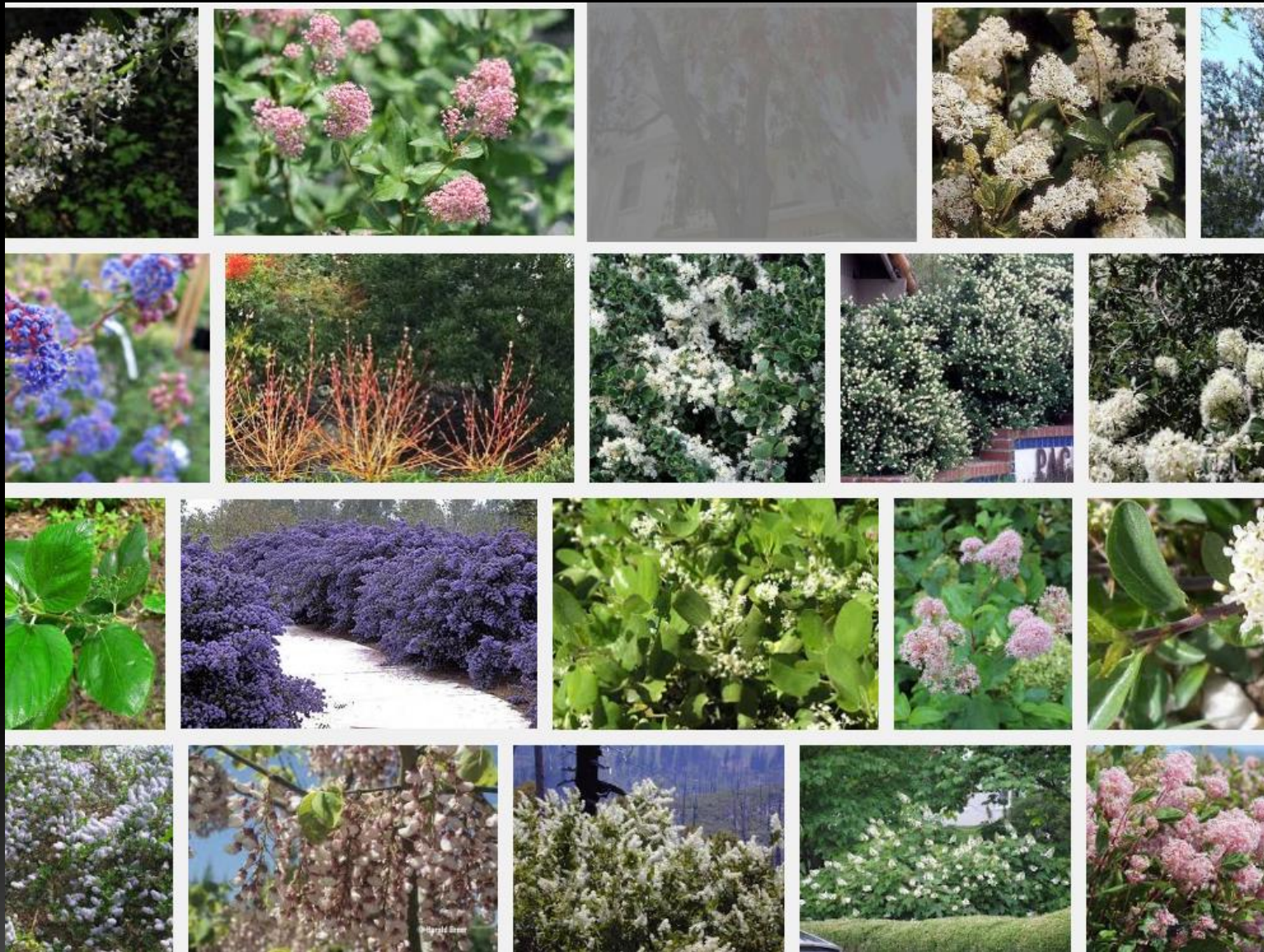
Toyon (a.k.a. Christmas Berry)

M/L SHRUBS: CEANOOTHUS SPP.



Ceanothus spp.: large screening shrub, varieties include “Concha”, “Blue Jeans”, “Celestial Blue”, “Frosty Blue”, (cont.)

M/L SHRUBS: CEANOOTHUS SPP.



Ceanothus spp. continued: “Dark Star”, “Julia Phelps”, “Joyce Coulter”, “Wheeler Canyon”, “Popcorn”, “Snowball”, “Marie Simon”



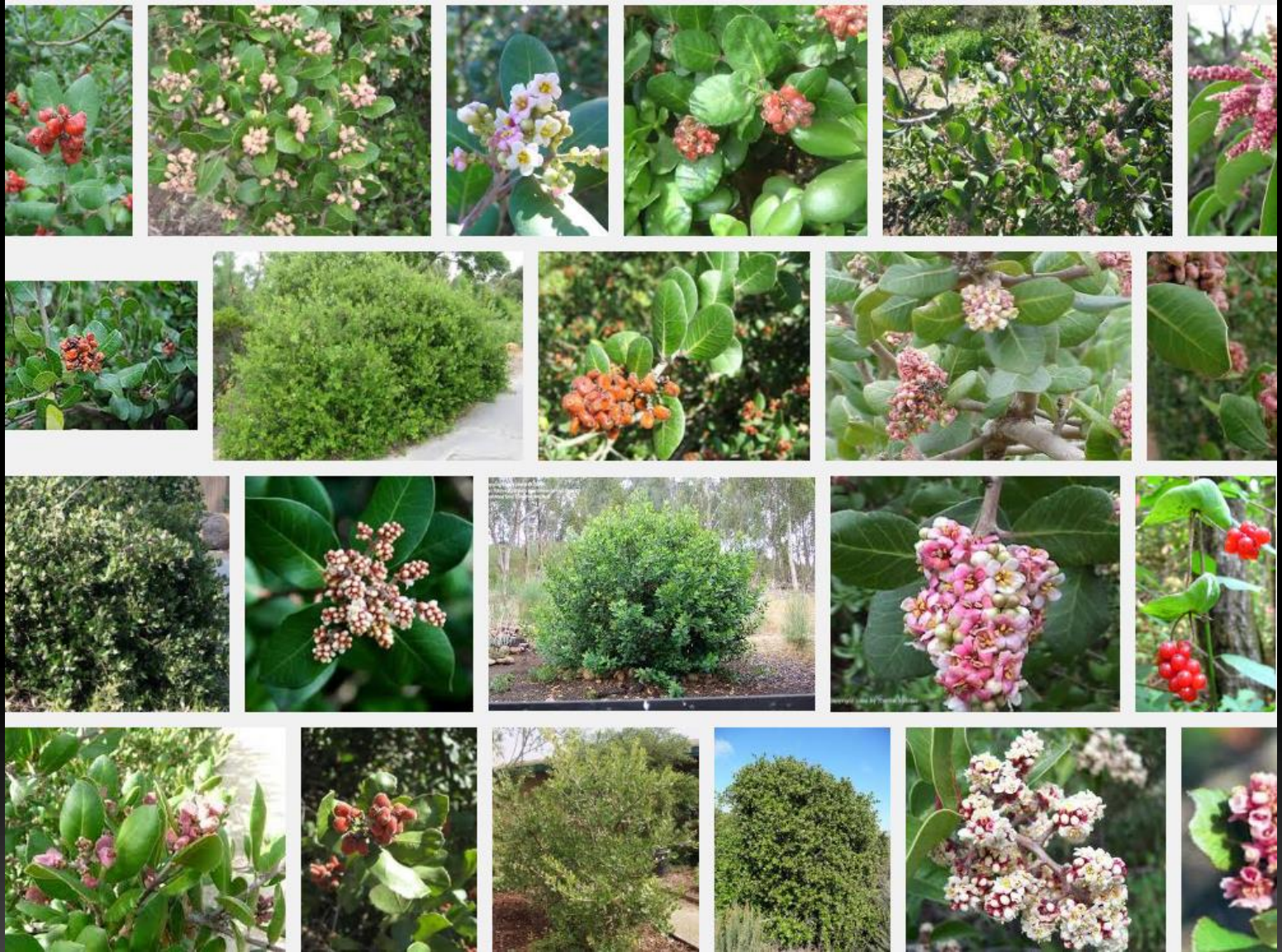
M/L SHRUBS: COFFEEBERRY



Coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*): grows 6 – 8', compact form, birds love the red and black berries, good hedge plant



M/L SHRUBS: LEMONADE BERRY



Lemonade Berry (*Rhus integrifolia*): 8', large screening shrub, good for erosion control, can be frost sensitive at 10F or lower

S FLOWERING: MATILIJA POPPY



Matilija Poppy (*Romneya coulteri*): likes sandy soil, dislikes adobe, up to 8' tall, spreads by rhizomes and can invade



M/L SHRUBS: BUSH ANEMONE



Bush Anemone:



M/L SHRUBS: TOYON



Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*): large screening shrub, small tree, or topiary, white flowers in spring with red berries in winter

Medium/Small Flowering Shrubs

Some Common Uses:

- Massing and repetition plant for swaths of color
- Focus specimen for curb appeal
- Ornamental feature anywhere
- Softening Agent for hard lines (architecture, utility boxes, etc.)
- Wildlife Habitat: food and shelter for birds, butterflies, etc.

Alum

Seaside Daisies

Coast Sunflower

Verbena De La Mina

Island Snapdragon

California Fucshias

Monkeyflowers

Buckwheat

Penstemons

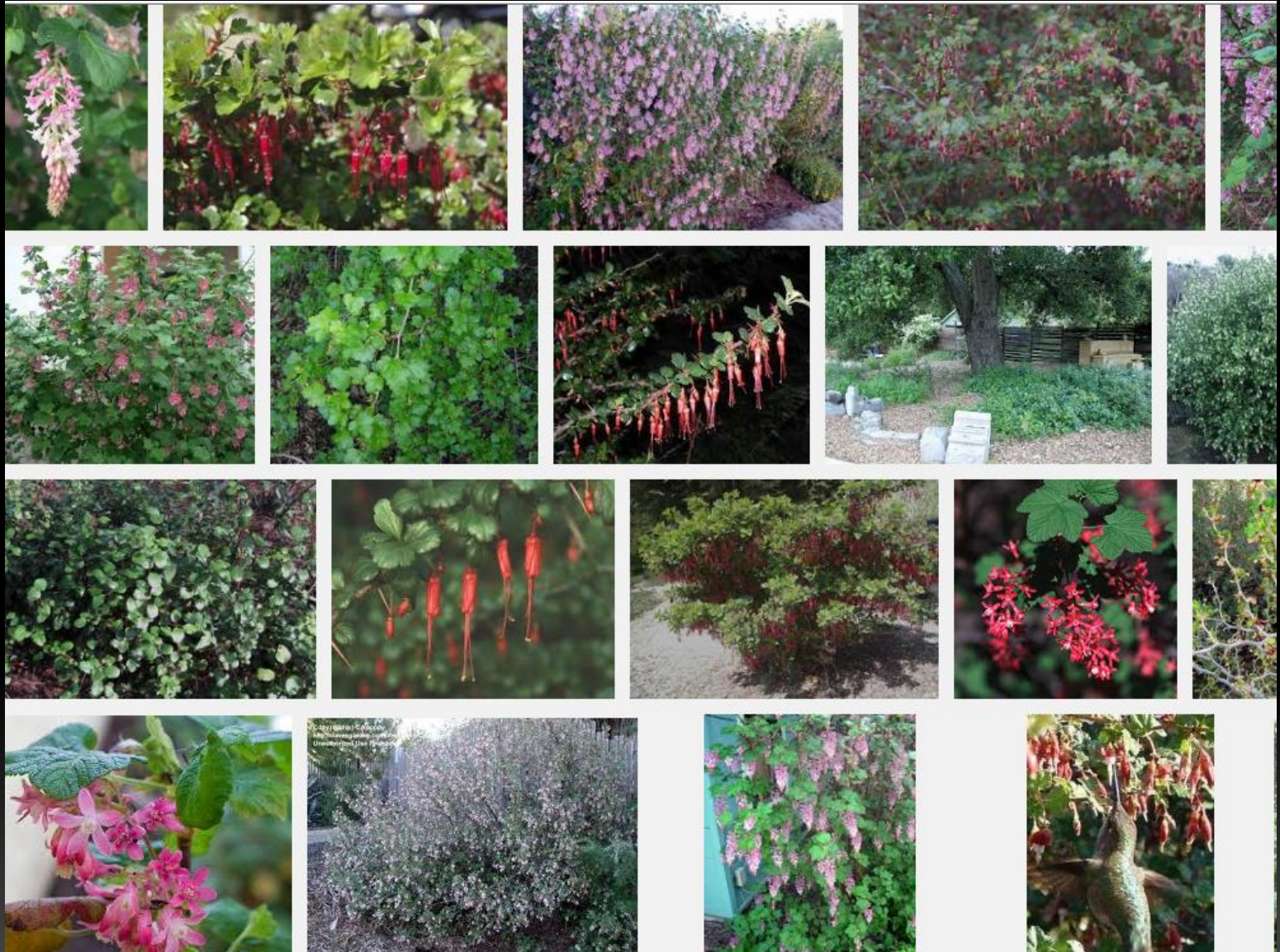
Wooly Blue Curls

Gooseberries and Currants

Matilija Poppies



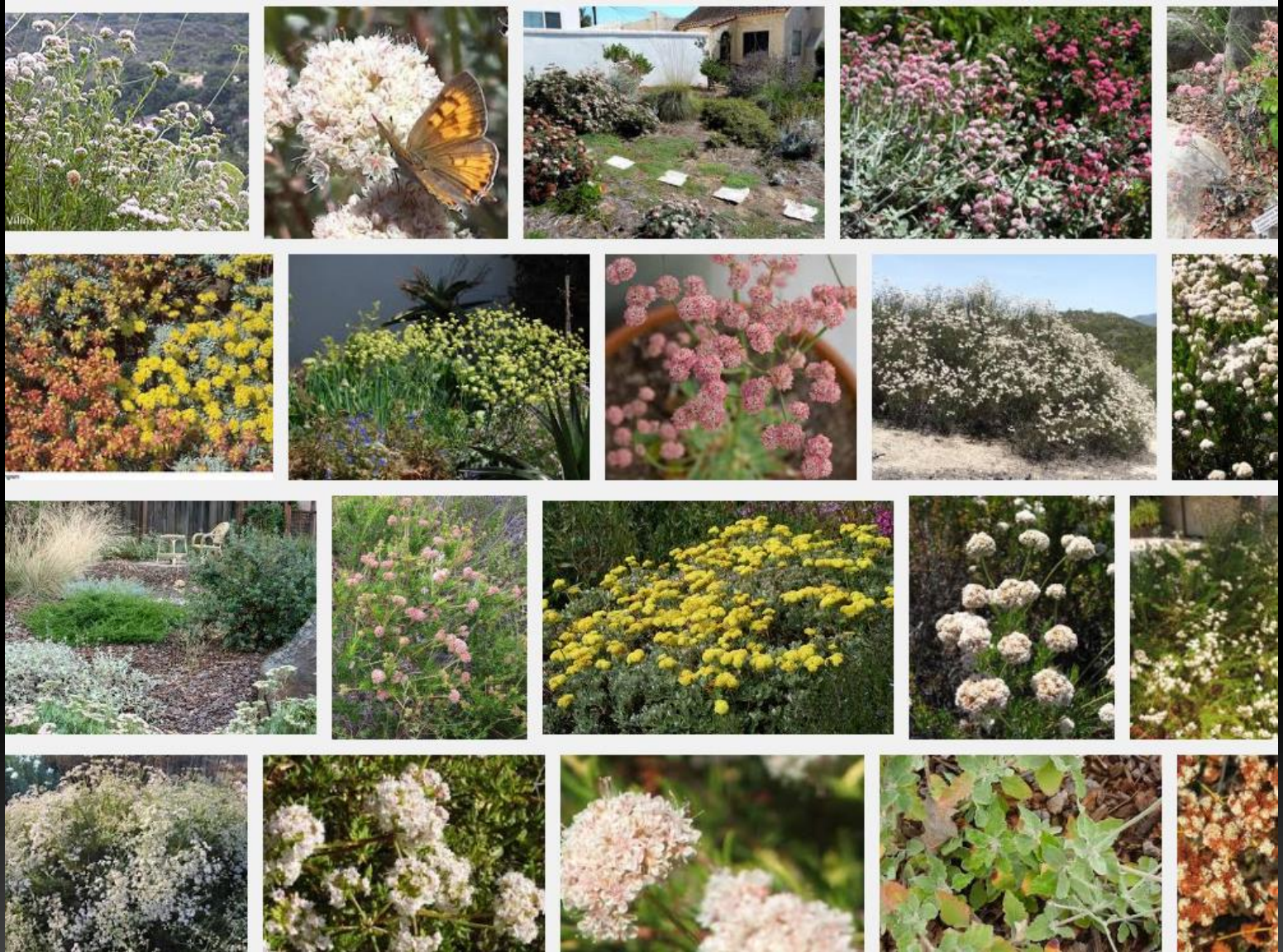
S FLOWERING: CURRANTS/RIBES



Currants (Ribes): many go dormant over summer and look as if they have died completely back, some evergreen



S FLOWERING: BUCKWHEAT



Buckwheat (Eriogonum): many types, "California", "Red Flowering", "Grande Rubescens", "Wright's", "Ashleaf"



S FLOWERING: COAST SUNFLOWER



Coast Sunflower (*Encelia californica*): 3-4' high, 2' daisy flowers, protect from temps below 30F, short-lived



S FLOWERING: WOOLLY BLUE CURLS



Woolly Blue Curls (*Trichostema lanatum*): 3-4' evergreen, flower spikes in summer, no water after established,



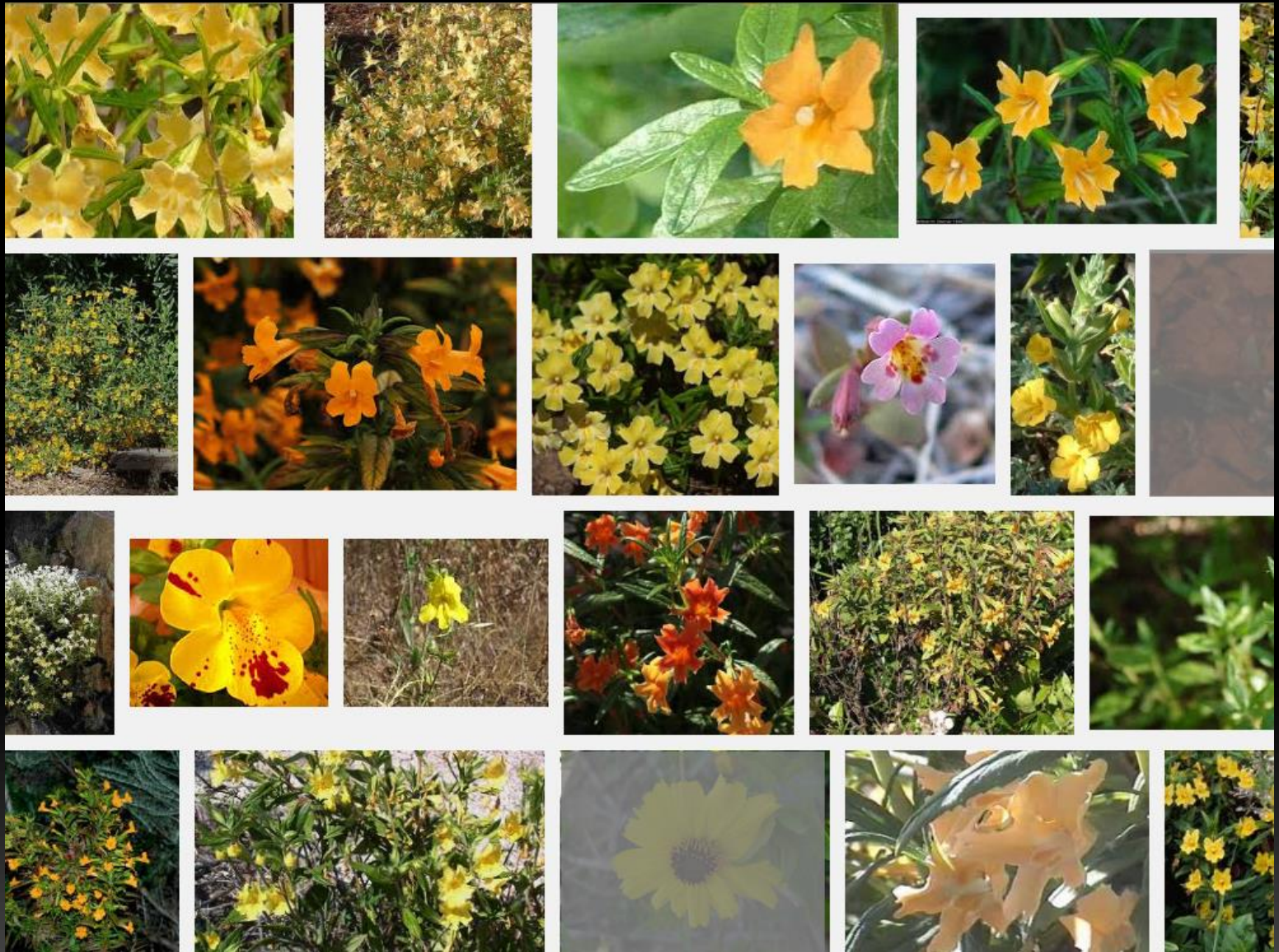
S FLOWERING: CA FUCSHIAS



CA Fucshias (*Epilobium* spp.): most red, one “pink”, on silvery-green foliage, small mounds, soft looking, one 3'



S FLOWERING: MONKEYFLOWERS



Monkeyflowers (*Diplacus* spp.): yellow, orange, red, burgundy, etc., varieties include “Conejo”, “Orange Bush”, “Lompoc”, “Cleveland’s”, “Slender”, “Topanga”, “Red”, “Santa Susana”



S FLOWERING: SEASIDE DAISY



Seaside Daisies (*Erigeron glaucus*): needs water every two weeks in hot areas, hates dust, part shade in Ojai



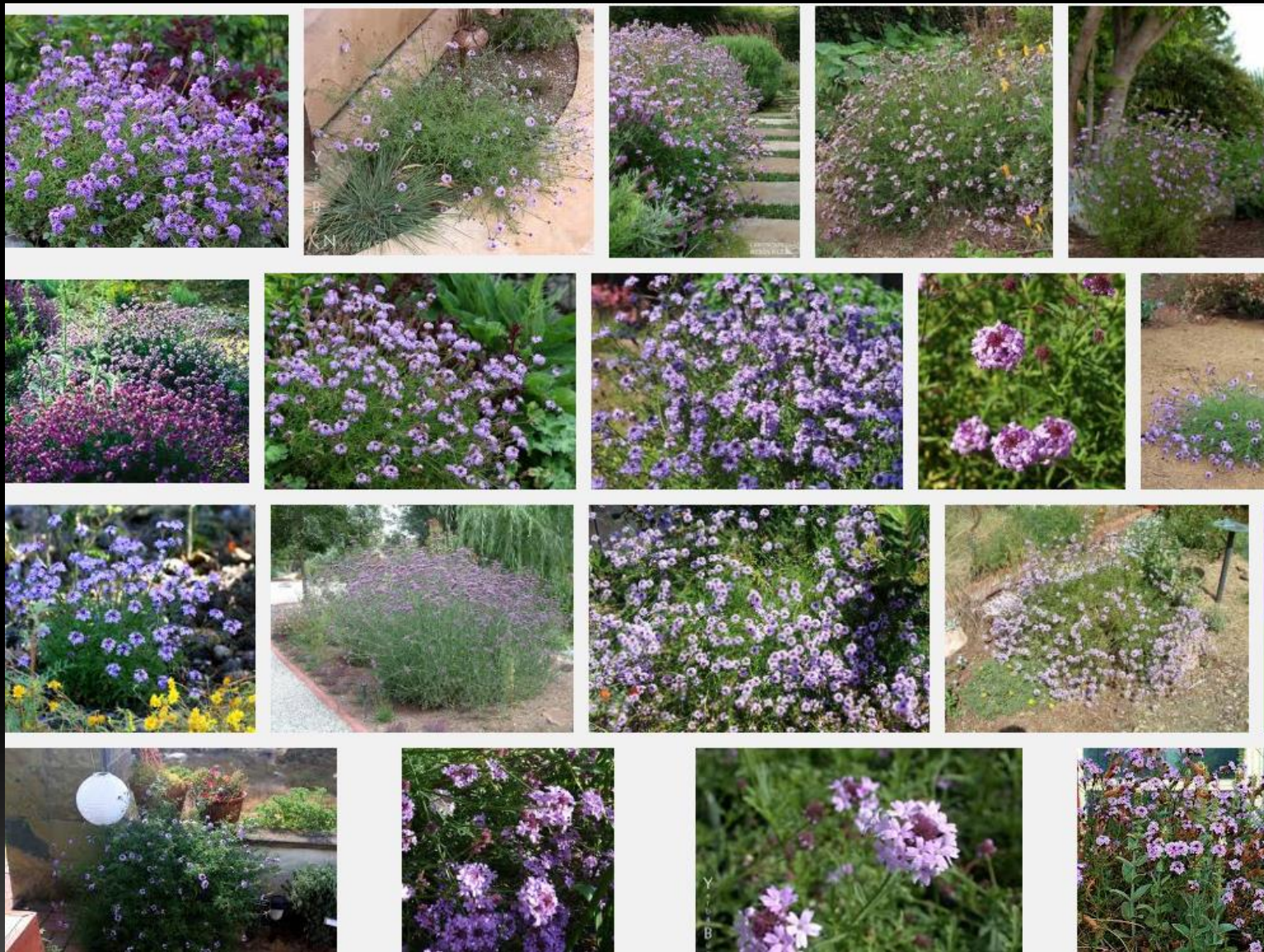
S FLOWERING: PENSTEMONS



Penstemons : flowers are similar to fuschias, hummingbirds love them, purple to red flowers



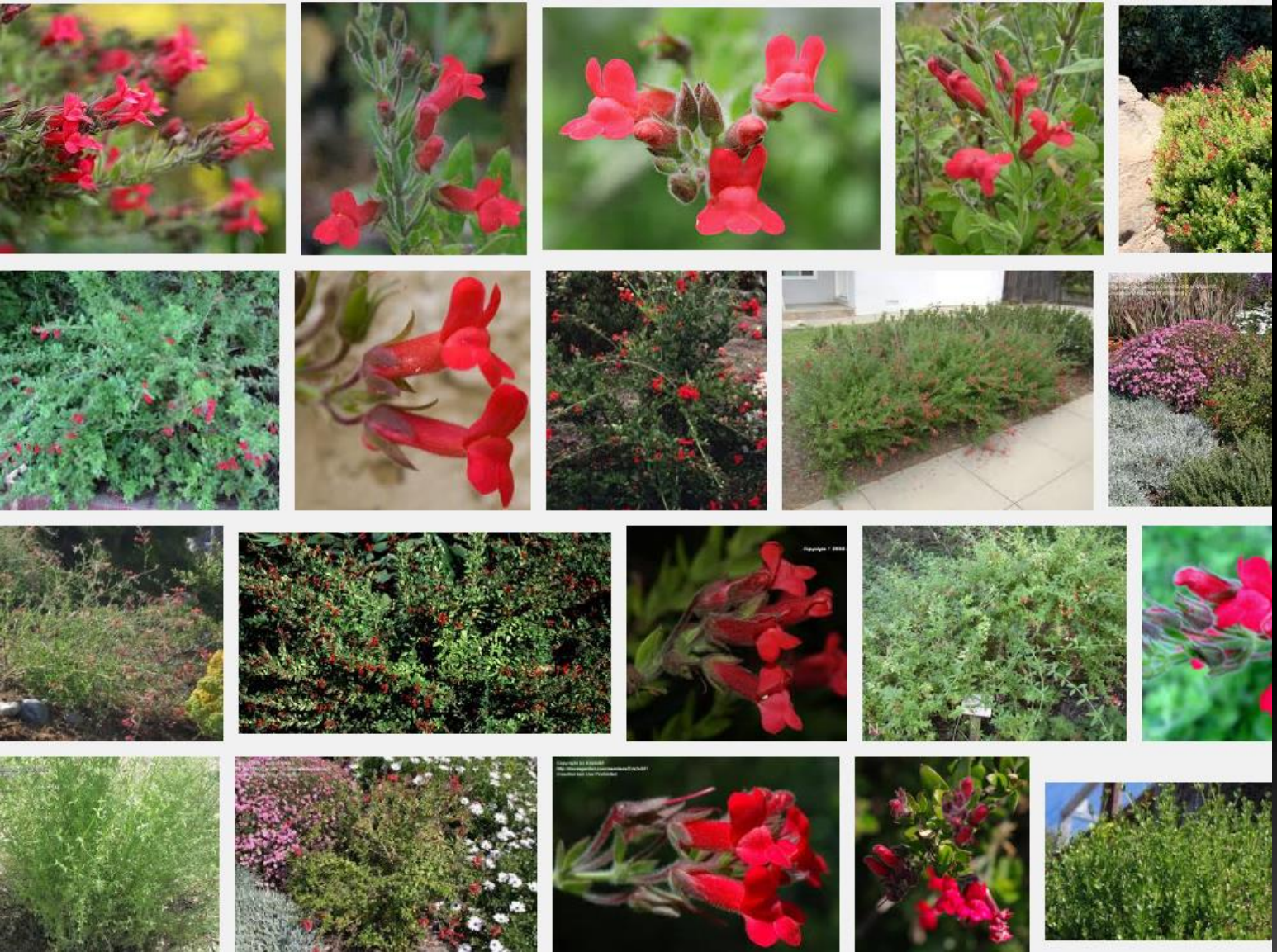
S FLOWERING: VERBENA 'DE LA MINA.'



Verbena "de la Mina" a.k.a. Cedros Island Verbena (Verbena lilancina 'de la mina'): mounds to 2', blooms often, looks lush with monthly irrigation, works as a container plant, hardy to 25F



S FLOWERING: ISLAND SNAPDRAGON



Island Snapdragon (*Galvezia speciosa*): 2.5' by 4', red snapdragon flowers in spring, may freeze to ground at 30F



S FLOWERING: ISLAND ALUM



Island Alum Root a.k.a. Coral Bells (*Heuchera maxima*): 2' tall with 3' white flower spikes, large leaves bring color under oaks, hardy to 15F



S FLOWERING: HEUCHERA HYBRID



Heuchera Hybrids: shade/part shade, varieties include “Green Tea”, “Berry Marmalade”, “Cajun Fire”, “Cherry Cola”, “Obsidian”, “Sugar Plum”, “Peach Flambé”

S FLOWERING: HEUCHERA HYBRID



Heuchera Hybrids: shade/part shade, varieties include "Green Tea", "Berry Marmalade", "Cajun Fire", "Cherry Cola", "Obsidian", "Sugar Plum", "Peach Flambé"

Sages

Some Common Uses:

- Massing and repetition for swaths of color
- Focus specimen for curb appeal
- Ornamental feature anywhere
- Wildlife Habitat: food and shelter for birds, butterflies, etc.
- Fragrance
- Spiritual Uses

White Sage

Black Sage

Cleveland Sage 'Winifred Gilman'

Hummingbird Sage

SAGES: WHITE SAGE



White Sage (*Salvia apiana*): ever"silver", nice accent plant, white flowers that fade to light lavender, 4'



SAGES: BLACK SAGE



Black Sage (*Salvia mellifera*): evergreen, light blue to purple flowers that butterflies and hummers love, 3'

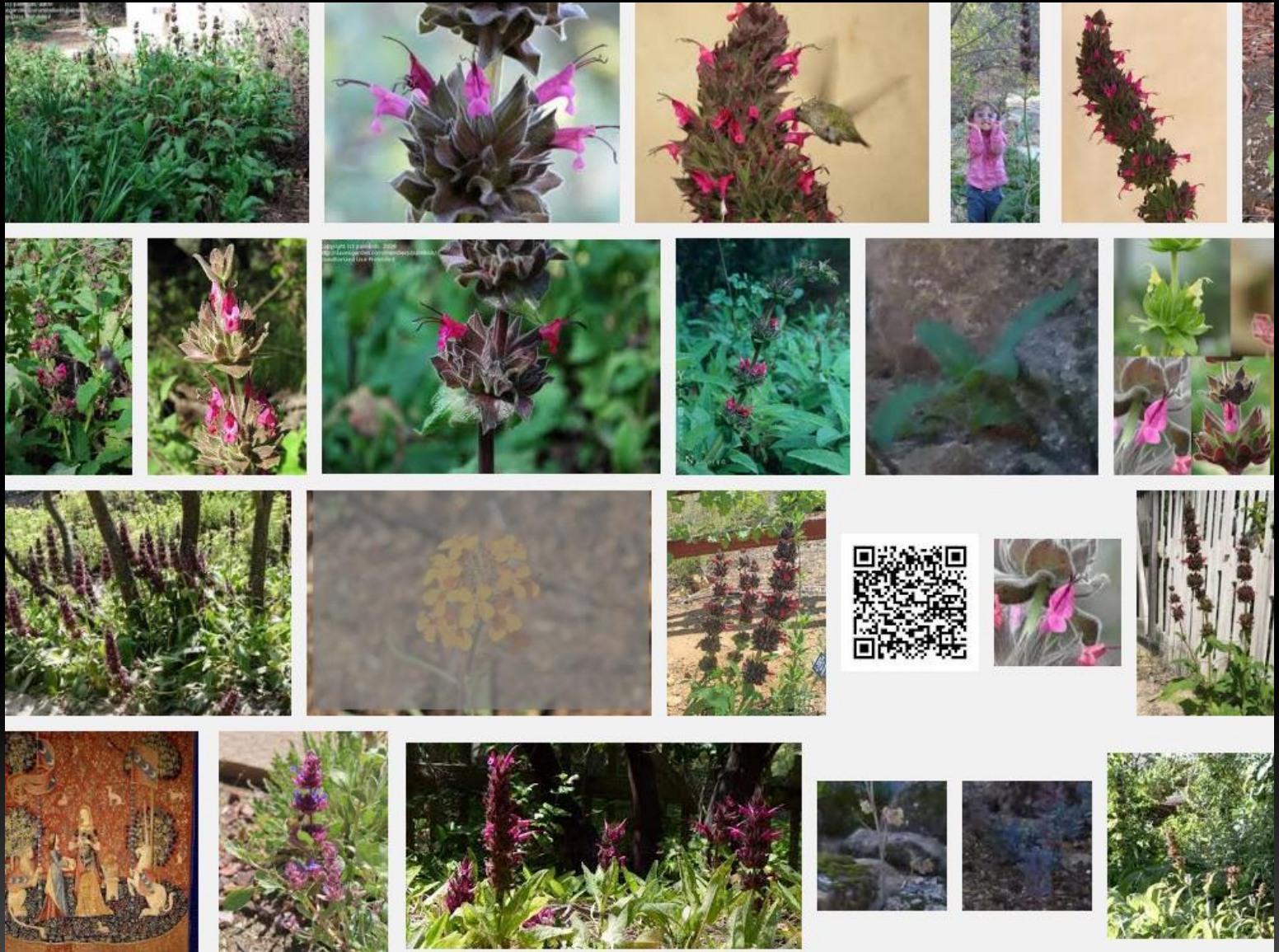
SAGES: CLEVELAND SAGE "W.G."



Cleveland Sage 'Winifred Gilman' (*Salvia cleavlandii*): a.k.a. Musk Sage, evergreen, bright flowers, very fragrant, 3'



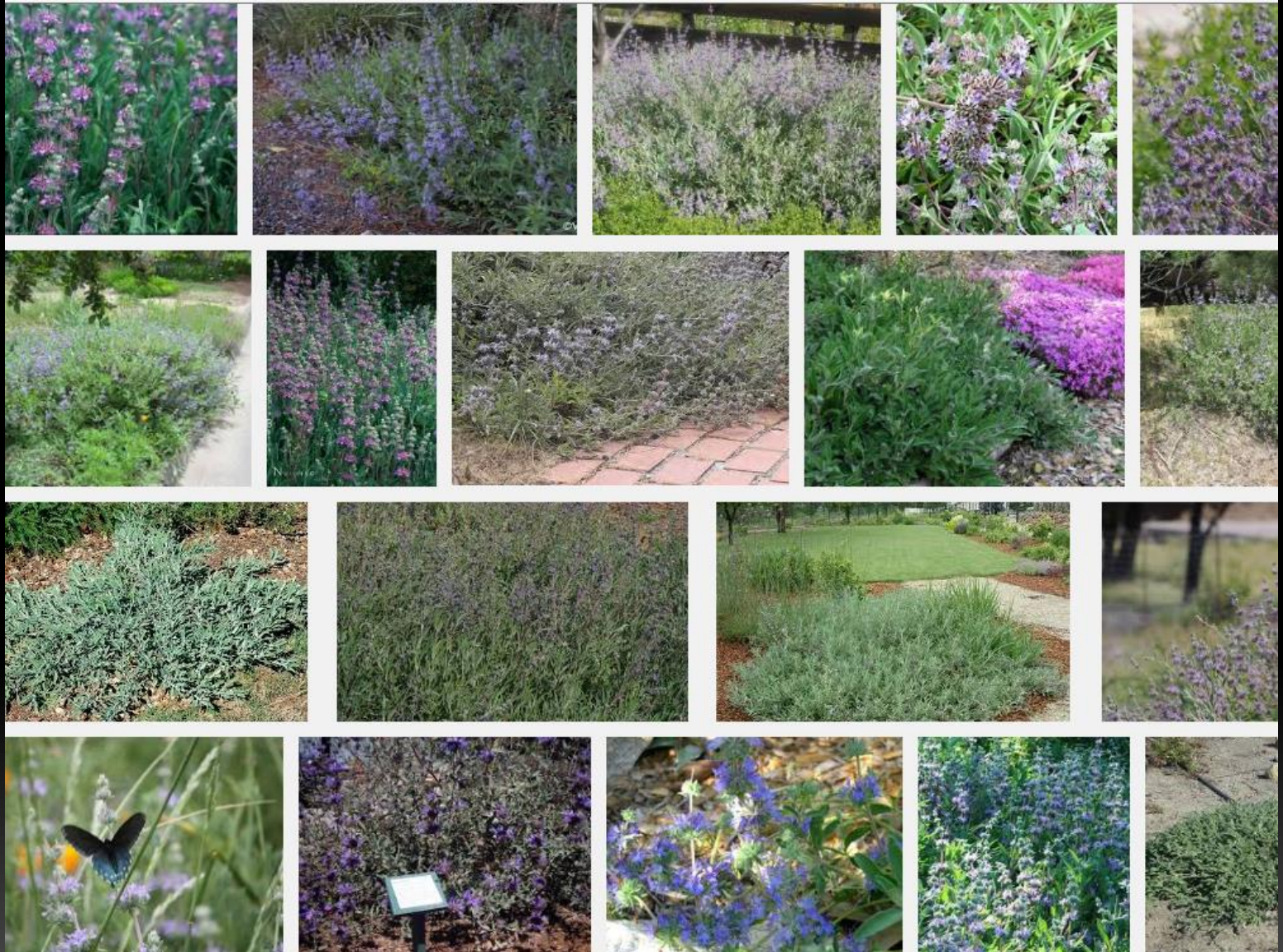
SAGES: HUMMINGBIRD SAGE 'P.P.'



Hummingbird Sage 'Powerline Pink' (*Salvia spathecea*):
bright green foliage with 3' magenta flower spikes in spring



SAGES: BEE'S BLISS SAGE



Bee's Bliss Sage (a.k.a. creeping sage): grows 2' tall by 4-6' wide, silvery green foliage, great ground cover

Ground Covers

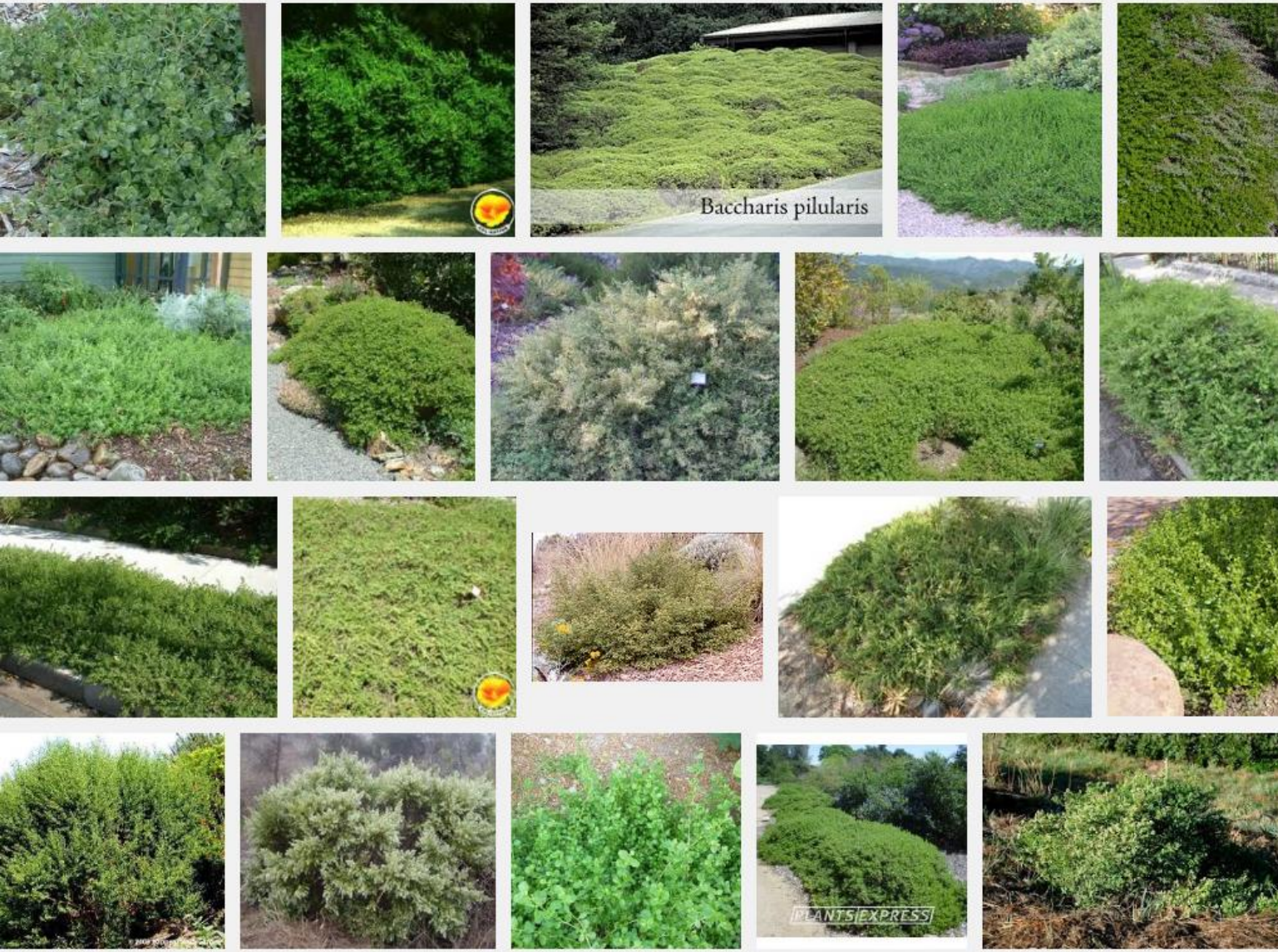
Some Common Uses:

- Fill in blank spaces
- Wildlife Habitat: food and shelter for birds, butterflies, etc.
- Fragrance

Dwarf Coyote Bush
Ceanothus 'Yankee Point'
Catalina Perfume Currant
Creeping Snowberry



G-COVERS: DWARF COYOTE BUSH



Dwarf Coyote Bush "Pigeon Point" (*Baccharis pilularis* 'pigeon point'): 1' tall by 12' wide, evergreen

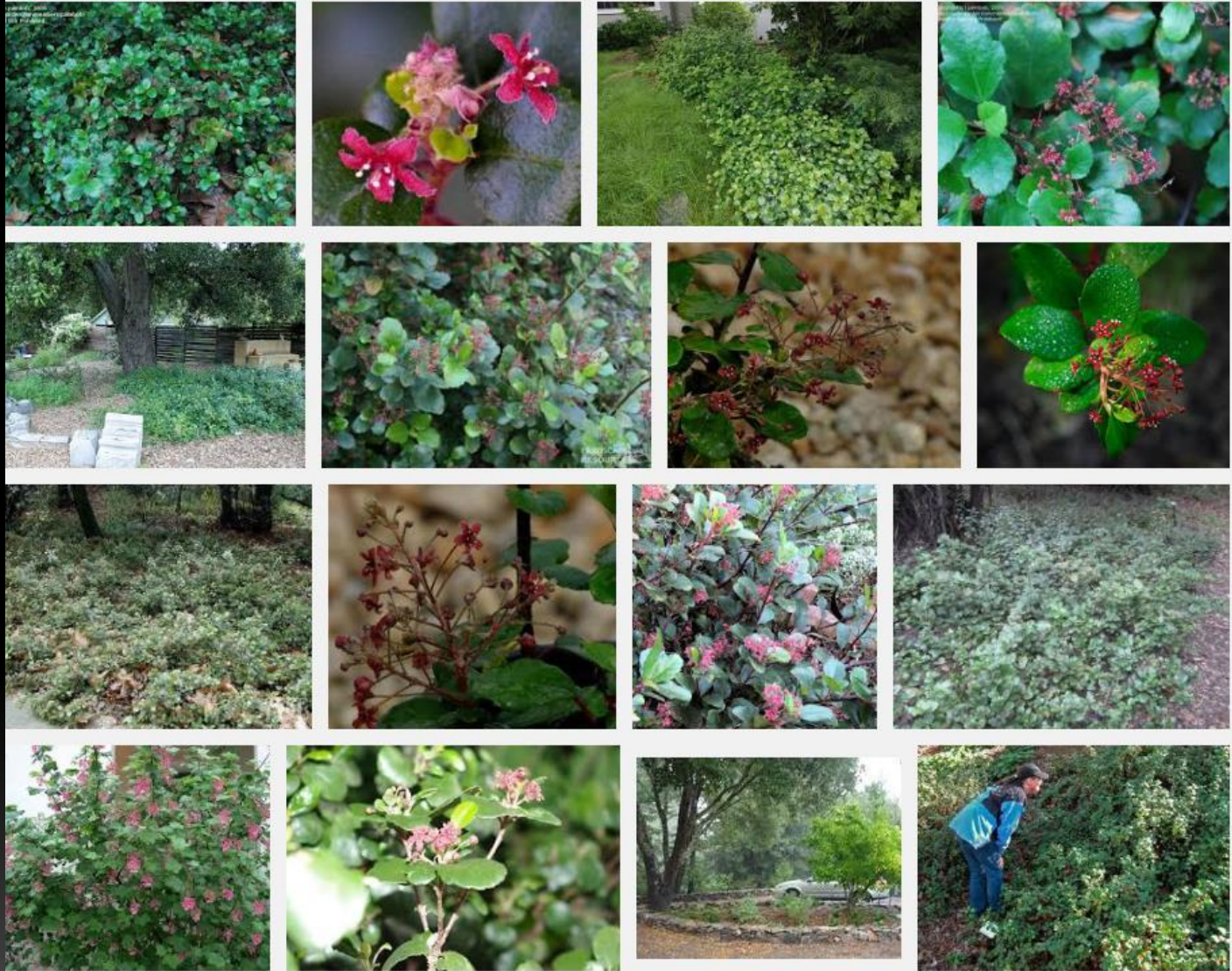
G-COVERS: CEAN. YANKEE POINT



Ceanothus "Yankee Point" (Ceanothus griseus 'yankee point'): 2-3' tall by 8 - 10' wide, evergreen, lilac-like flowers



G-COVERS: C. PERFUME CURRANT



**Catalina Perfume Currant (*Ribes viburnifolium*): PART SHADE/
FULL SHADE, 2-3' tall by 6' wide, evergreen, good under oaks**



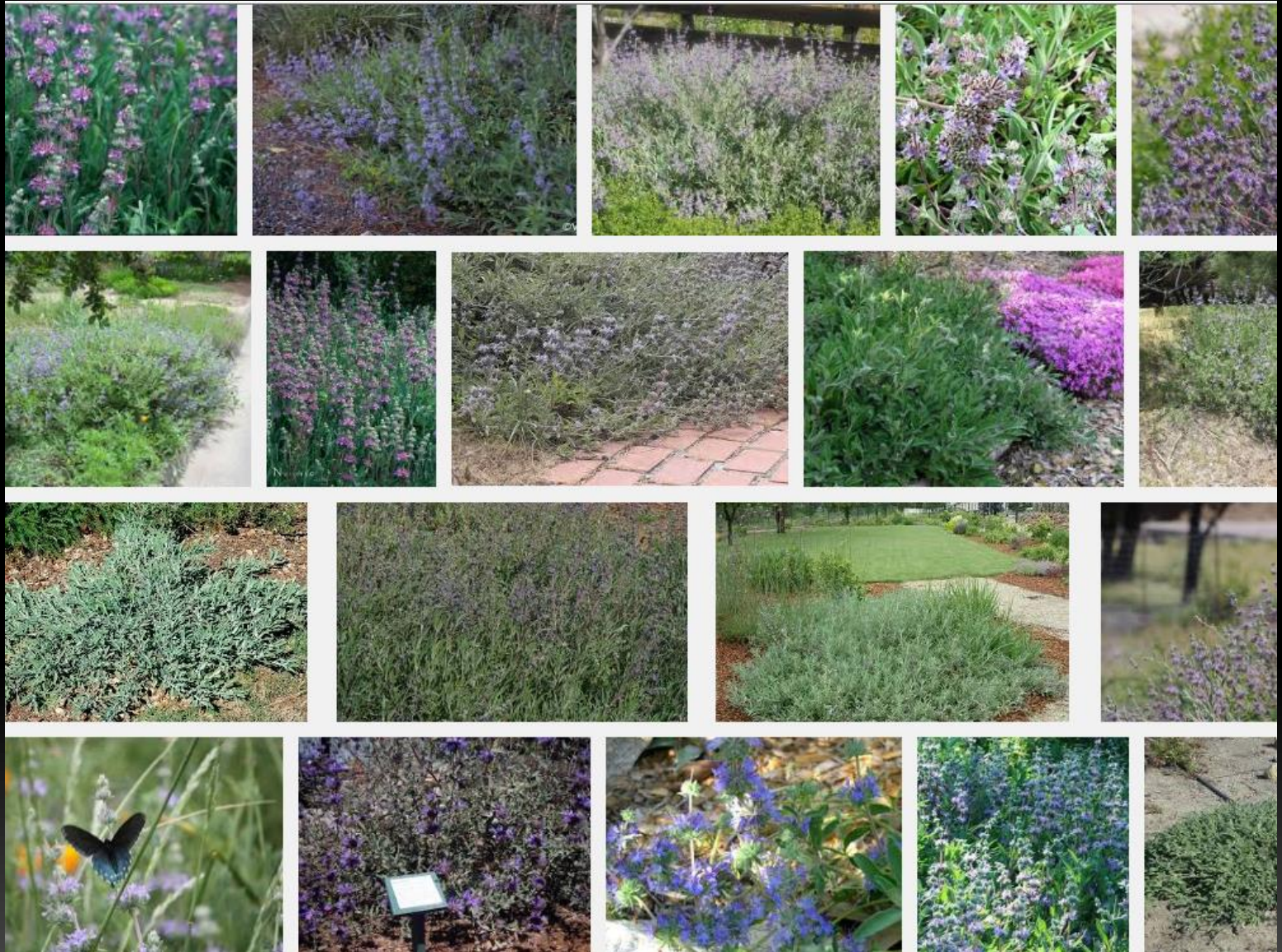
G-COVERS: CREEPING SNOWBERRY



Creeping Snowberry (*Gaultheria hispidula*): 2' tall by 4' wide, evergreen vine that forms a thicket, white berries



G-COVERS: BEE'S BLISS SAGE



Bee's Bliss Sage (a.k.a. creeping sage): silvery green foliage, 2' tall by 4-6' wide, great groundcover

Grasses

Some Common Uses:

- Fill in blank spaces
- Ornamental feature anywhere
- Wildlife Habitat: food and shelter for birds, butterflies, etc.

Sedges
Deer Grass
Blue Wild Rye

GRASSES: SAN DIEGO SEDGE



San Diego Sedge (*Carex spissa*): large, 4 foot tall, [photo from Invasive Plant Council's website www.cal-ipc.org]



GRASSES: DEER GRASS



Deer Grass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*): 2' tall, flower/seed stalks grow up to 6', birds love the seed, baskets (photo IPC)

Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: California Condor

Google

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky



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Ceanothus

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ceanothus L. / ⁱsɨəˈnoʊθɨs^[2] is a **genus** of about 50–60 species of **shrubs** or small **trees** in the family **Rhamnaceae**. The genus is confined to North America, with the center of its distribution in California. Some species (e.g. *C. americanus*) are found in the eastern United States and southeast Canada, and others (e.g. *C. coeruleus*) extend as far south as Guatemala. Most are shrubs 0.5–3 m tall, but *C. arboreus* and *C. thyrsiflorus*, both from California, can be small trees up to 6–7 m tall. The name is derived from the Greek word κεανοθος (*keanothos*), which was applied by Theophrastus (371-287 BC) to a spiny Old World plant believed to be *Cirsium arvense*.^{[3][4]}

Contents [hide]

- Description
- Ecology
- Distribution
- Cultivation
- Propagation
- Other uses
- Names
- Selected species
 - Formerly placed here
- See also
- Notes
- References

Description [edit]



The majority of the species are **evergreen**, but the handful of species adapted to cold

Ceanothus



Ceanothus americanus flowers

Scientific classification

Kingdom: **Plantae**
 (unranked): **Angiosperms**
 (unranked): **Eudicots**
 (unranked): **Rosids**
 Order: **Rosales**
 Family: **Rhamnaceae**
 Genus: ***Ceanothus***
 L.^[1]

Species

See text



Las Pilitas Nursery

California Native Plants are all we grow!

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Las Pilitas Native Plant Nurseries.

100% California Native Plants

Since the 1970's Las Pilitas Nursery has been growing, researching and planting California native plants. We do the work, you get to play with the plants and enjoy the resulting web pages. You can browse our native plants by clicking on the [Browse plants](#) link.

You can query native plants for [your yard here](#).

If you know the plant you are looking for use the links below or the search box to peruse the catalog.



Native plants by scientific name:

[A](#)[B](#)[C](#)[D](#)[E](#)[F](#)[G](#)[H](#)[I](#)[J](#)[K](#)[L](#)[M](#)[N](#)[O](#)[P](#)[Q](#)[R](#)[S](#)[T](#)[U](#)[V](#)[W](#)[X](#)[Y](#)[Z](#)





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[Home](#) > [Nature of California](#) > [Native Plants](#)

California Native Plants

All the plants we have ever grown, listed by alphabetic order.
Click on a letter, "A" for Arctostaphylos "M" for Manzanita!

Go to each plant's page to check availability, look at pictures, or buy online

Plants listed by scientific name:

[A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z](#)

Plants listed by common name:

[A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z](#)

Plants listed by cultivar:

[A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z](#)

Try something as simple as typing whatever you are looking for in our search box. Try something natural like your city name or the native plant you're looking for.

We have all sorts of pages about native plants and their natural allies. More than likely there will be something mentioning your city or your question in a thousands of pages of information.

The purpose of this page is to show you the diverse plants that occur naturally in California, and maybe a little about California itself.

- [The California Oaks](#)
- [California native trees](#)
- [California Honeysuckles](#)
- [California Sages](#)
- [California Lilacs, Ceanothus](#)
- [California Fuchsia](#)
- [California Manzanitas](#)
- [California Currants and Gooseberries](#)
- [California Buckwheats](#)
- [Penstemons of California](#)
- [Monkeys of California](#)
- [Wildflower Seeds and Grasses](#)
- [Native Herbs](#)
- [Incredible Edibles](#)
- [Flat groundcovers for gardens or borders](#)
- [Groundcovers for slopes](#)
- [One-two foot groundcovers](#)
- [Native flowers in February](#)
- [Native flowers in May](#)
- [Native flowers in August](#)
- [Native Flowers in November](#)
- [Native Vines](#)
- [What Pollinates what plant?](#)



Ceanothus Concha, California
Mountain Lilac

Concha grows about 4 ft tall and has very dark blue flowers, tolerates alkali soil and drought conditions and will grow in most populated areas of California.



A short video about Ceanothus Concha



Ceanothus Concha, California Mountain Lilac



1-Ceanothus Concha-2-Ceanothus Julia Phelps(just finished flowering)-3-Ceanothus impressus nipomencis-4-Ceanothus Wheeler Canyon-5-Ceanothus olivaceus(flowered a month ago in March)-6-*Pinus muricata*-7-Ceanothus Mountain Hill-8-Ceanothus LT Blue-9-Ceanothus Blue Jeans(flowered a month ago)-10-Ceanothus Coastal Blue-11-Ceanothus Remetz Blue-12-Ceanothus impressus-13-Ceanothus Snow Ball(flowered a month ago, and eggs has a 12 on it)-14-Ceanothus Frosty Blue





Web Site Search

Plant Database



Search by Plant Name

General Plant Info



Search for any word

Advanced Search >>

Search by size, origins, color, cultural needs, etc.

Site Map

Retail Locator

Plant Listings

- PLANT TYPE
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- PLANT IMAGE INDEX
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- SPECIALTY CROPS
- NEW 2014 PLANTS
- PRIME LIST>
- for MAY

Welcome to the San Marcos Growers W

We hope that you enjoy and find useful the information on the San Marcos Growers wholesale plant nursery located in the Goleta Valley, just north of Santa Barbara, CA. Since 1979 we have been growing plants appropriate to California's mediterranean climate. We grow California native plants, as well as vines, trees, shrubs, ferns, perennials, succulent grasses and grass-like plants from other areas around the world. The information on this site shares our experiences with many of these great plants.

As a wholesale nursery we do not sell directly to the public but do sell to many retail landscape professionals, as noted on our **Sales Policy Page**. If you would like to locate a nursery selling our plants, please visit our **Retail Nursery Locator**.

If you are in the nursery or landscape profession, please request a password to view our plant database by clicking on "New User" at the top of this, or any other page. Please note that we only sell within California and only **within California**. Any shipping arrangements for outside of California will need to be made by the receiver.

Here are some "Featured" plants in our inventory right now





NEW USER?

wholesale login

password

Web Site Search

Plant Database

General Plant Info

Advanced Search >>

Search by size, origins, color, cultural needs, etc.

Site Map

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- for MAY



Weather Station

Home > Products > California Native Plant Page

California Native Plant Page



Welcome to our new **Native Plant Page**. This page has links to the database entries for all of the California native plants that we grow and also features articles about native plants and links to other sites that have information about California native plants. The information is written by our staff horticulturist Randy Baldwin with contributions by **Carol Bornstein**, author and past director of horticulture at the **Santa Barbara Botanic Garden**.

Native Plant Articles

- Arctostaphylos** California's Native Jewels
- Ceanothus** California's True Blues by Carol Bornstein
- Mimulus** Masses of Monkeyflowers by Carol Bornstein
- Salvia** Riders of the Purple Sage (many are natives!)

Resources

- Native Plant Books We Recommend
- Native Plant Websites We Recommend

Native Plants We Grow

- **Aesculus californica** - California Buckeye
- **Agave** - Century Plant



Web Site Search

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- for MAY



Weather Station

Products > Arctostaphylos manzanita 'Dr. Hurd'

Arctostaphylos manzanita 'Dr. Hurd' - Dr. Hurd Manzanita



[2nd Image]

Habit and Cultural Information

- Category: Shrub
- Family: Ericaceae (Heaths, Heathers)
- Origin: California (U.S.A.)
- Evergreen: Yes
- Flower Color: White
- Bloomtime: Winter
- Height: 12-16 feet
- Width: 10-15 feet
- Exposure: Full Sun
- Drought Tolerant: Yes
- Irrigation ([H2O Info](#)): Low Water Needs
- Winter Hardiness: 15-20° F

Arctostaphylos manzanita 'Dr. Hurd' (Dr. Hurd Manzanita) - An evergreen shrub to small tree that grows fairly rapidly to 12-15 feet tall and about as wide, with an open structure and beautiful dark mahogany red-barked stems holding large ovate light green leaves at their tips. The clusters of small white flowers dangle at the branch tips in late winter. Plant in full sun to light shade and irrigate occasionally to not at all. It is reliably hardy to 10 degrees F and reportedly able to tolerate even lower temperatures. We have been told of an Oregon State University study on many different manzanita during which the area had a hard freeze with a low temperatures to 7 degrees F for nearly an entire week and Arctostaphylos manzanita 'Dr. Hurd' was not damaged. This cultivar of the northern California Arctostaphylos manzanita is also more garden tolerant than selections of its southern counterpart, Arctostaphylos glauca, and tolerates occasional garden irrigation and poor soil conditions. This selection was made by John Coulter of the Saratoga Horticultural Foundation in 1972, who found it growing in the garden of Dr. Cuthbert Hurd in Portola Valley and was thought to have originated from Louis Edmunds Native Plant Nursery. The Saratoga Horticultural Foundation noted that, while the plant had obvious affinities with Arctostaphylos manzanita, it was undoubtedly of hybrid origin. The name Arctostaphylos was given to the genus by the French (of Scottish descent) naturalist Michel Adanson (1707-1778), who first named the circumboreal Arctostaphylos uva-ursi for plants found in Europe. The name comes from the Greek words 'arktos' meaning "bear" and 'staphyle' meaning grapes in reference to bears eating the fruit and the common name Bearberry also references this fact. This description is based on our research and our observations of this plant growing in containers at our

The 3rd annual Write-Off is here! Sharpen your pencil and think about the "great garden influences" in you

Searching Dave's Garden

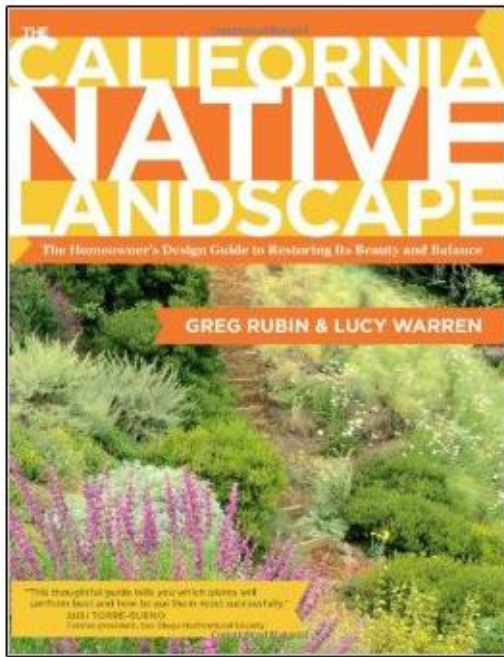
Articles:

Article	Author
Putting the Holly in Hollywood	Kelli Kallenborn
The Magic of Green	Kelli Kallenborn
The Chaparral: A Western Story	Kelli Kallenborn
The Mediterranean Climate: Surviving the Summer	Kelli Kallenborn
Christmas: Snow or No Snow, It's All Good	Kelli Kallenborn
Fun feature: Ask-a-Gardener	Melody Rose

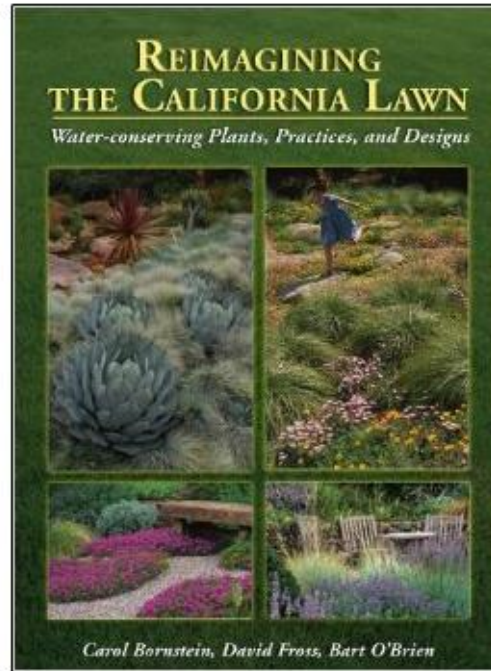
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PlantFiles:

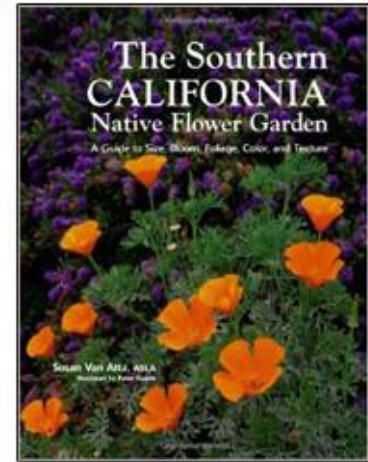
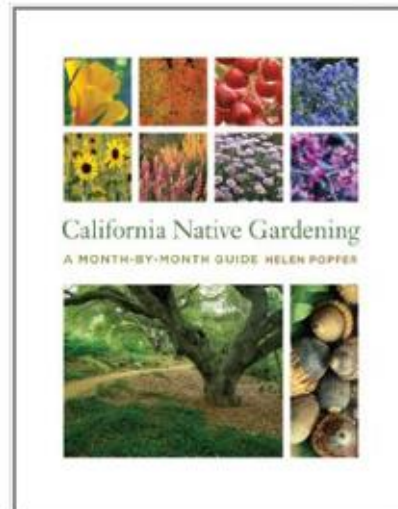
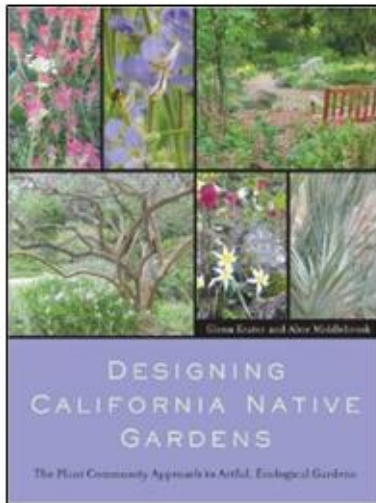
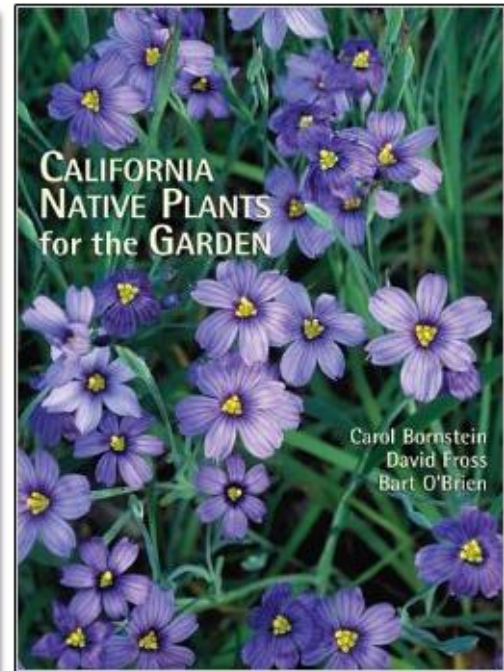
Plant name	Image
	Toyon, California Holly, Christmasberry <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> var. <i>cerina</i>
	Toyon, California Holly, Christmasberry 'Davis Gold'

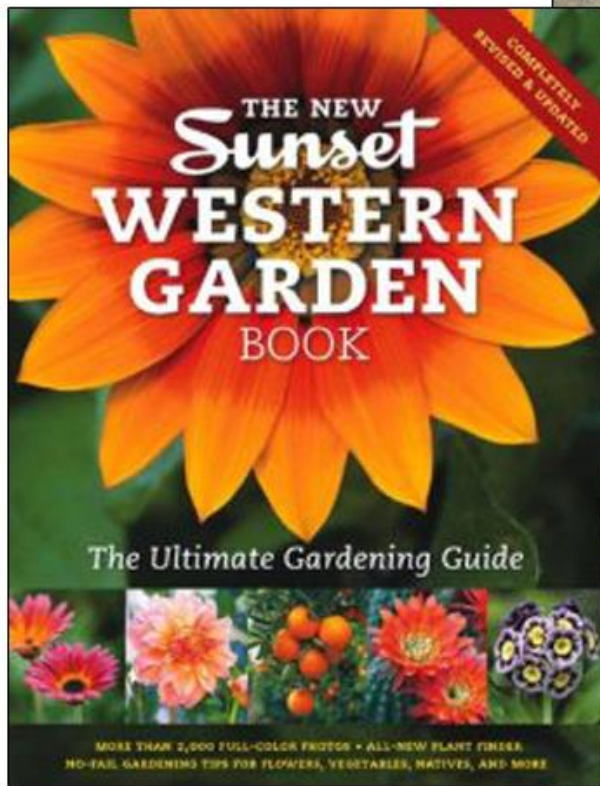


Greg Rubin



and Carol Bornstein





Sunset Western Garden Book



Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: Pygmy Mammoth (channel islands)





Where do you get the plants?

Plan your shopping list
and pre-order the plants from a nursery



You Like the Plants, You Get the Plants, Now What?

Think like a plant:

You want seasonal rain – that's when you know it is safest to grow. You have limited energy and must constantly decide to expend it on root growth, foliage growth, blooms, or seed production. Most of you are used to being nibbled on by rabbits or deer occasionally, so a sort pruning will not seem unreasonable. The world makes sense to you when you are in plantings with your known companion plants (biome, plant community based designs). You like to have healthy microrhizal tickle your root zones. You don't mind gophers as long as you are not on the menu – besides the native birds of prey like to eat them.

You Like the Plants, You Get the Plants, Now What?

WHEN?

IDEAL SITUATION:

- ❖ Plant in Fall (say late October)
- ❖ We have a normal (or better than normal) rain year
- ❖ It becomes unnecessary to irrigate often
- ❖ You can cut plants back to monthly irrigation by May

REAL LIFE:

- ❖ Plant when you can, in basins with short berms
- ❖ You irrigate once a week by filling basins
- ❖ Within two or three months you begin to wean them off water

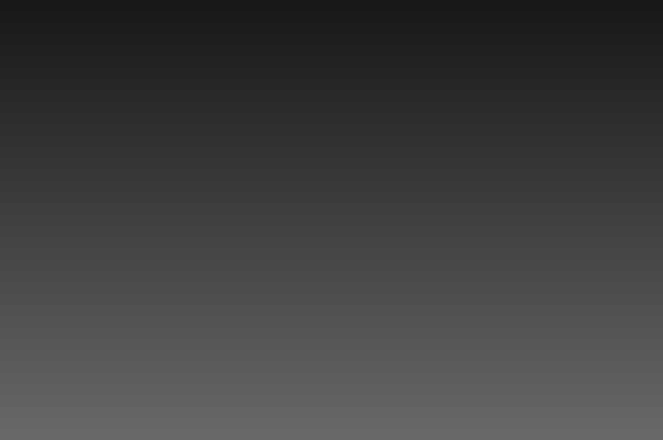
You Like the Plants, You Get the Plants, Now What?

METHOD?

IDEAL SITUATION:

- ❖ Holes are 3 times the width and a few inches deeper than the nursery container the plant came in
- ❖ In-fill dirt and “plant dance” around dig (Bert Wilson)
- ❖ Form sizable basins around plant (or plant groupings – but be sure that the “crown” of the plant is sitting above the lowest part of basin
- ❖ Watering deeply – lots of water – to ensure plant has adequate supply AND to remove air pockets from disturbed dirt
- ❖ Mulch to reduce evaporation AND prevent soil temps from getting too hot







You Like the Plants, You Get the Plants, Now What?

MAINTENANCE?

IDEAL SITUATION:

- ❖ Always remove weeds in plants' basin because they are competing for water and other resources
- ❖ After plants begin to fill, weeds will naturally greatly diminish
- ❖ SUMMER: deadhead spring blooms
- ❖ FALL: shape formal hedges
- ❖ WINTER: brace for frost, use frost cloth as needed
- ❖ SPRING: prune manzanitas and ceanothus immediately following bloom, tip prune herbaceous perennials, remove seed head from plants you do not want to go to seed – to encourage a potential re-bloom

Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: Bobcat

Let's Discuss Gophers

Following four slides are courtesy of
Michael Glenn, Biologist
United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Pocket Gopher



Photo by: Glenn

**That's right!.....
I'm native and darn
cute!**





Barn Owl

“I ♥ gophers”

Photo by :
Farris

Baby Barn Owls



Photo by :
McCrary

Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: Monarch Butterfly





KNOWN:

West facing
Gopher issue
Expensive water bill
Good irrigation system
Patches of grass remain
Retaining wall in place
Two small trees in place
Specifically seeking fragrance



Deep Breath Slide



CA Native Species: Island Fox pup