

10 Plants (to get to know)

California Native Plant Collection

San Francisco Manzanita

Arctostaphylos franciscana

Family: Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Thought to be extinct in the wild for at least 6 decades, it was recently found growing along Doyle Drive in San Francisco. The mother plant was dug up and moved to a secret location in the Presidio. It is now being grown in several nurseries and botanic gardens to help preserve the species.

(First 5 images from Calscape: <https://goo.gl/images>)



Flannel Bush

Fremontodendron sp.

Family: Malvaceae (Mallow Family)

Easily recognizable by its profusion of yellow mallow-like flowers in the Spring. Completely drought tolerant, can die from overwatering. A very popular plant with home gardeners and there are a number of cultivars available.



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Deergrass

Muhlenbergia rigens

Family: Poaceae (Grass Family)

Description: One of our beautiful native bunch grasses. Highly important to California Indian basketweavers who use the flower stalks to make their baskets. To keep the plant healthy, cut it down every two to three years and remove all the dead thatch.



Yerba Buena

Clinopodium douglasii

Family: Lamiaceae (Mint Family)

Description: Found in woodlands it makes a nice groundcover in shady locations. Very fragrant and tasty – the leaves, best picked in Spring, can be steeped in hot water to make a delicious mint tea.



California Huckleberry

Vaccinium ovatum

Family: Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Beautiful, slow growing native shrub. Often found in woodlands but can take more sun in home gardens along the coast. Various cultivars are available and are usually distinguished by the color of the leaves which can vary from glossy green to a pale bluish-green color. The berries are edible and delicious.



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California Fuchsia

Epilobium canum

Family: Onagraceae (Evening Primrose Family)

One of the few California native plants that blooms from summer through fall. It can be low growing or grow up to 3 feet tall. Great for attracting hummingbirds to your garden. (image from <https://www.anniesannuals.com>)



Island Barberry

Berberis pinnata ssp. *insularis*

Family: Berberidaceae (Barberry Family)

Found only on the northern Channel Islands, the natural population suffered when goats were placed on the islands which nearly ate the plant to extinction. Only a few plants remain in the wild. (Image from <https://calphotos.berkeley.edu>)



Currant

Ribes sanguineum and *Ribes malvaceum*

Family: Grossulariaceae (Gooseberry Family)

Ribes can be divided into two groups, those with spines (gooseberries) and those without spines (currants). Depending on species they bloom in winter (*malvaceum*) and spring (*sanguineum*). Great plant for attracting hummingbirds and the berries are edible.



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Guadalupe Island Cypress *Hesperocyparis guadalupensis*

Family: Cupressaceae (Cypress Family)

Found on Guadalupe Island, which is about 200 miles off the coast of Baja California, and is part of the California Floristic Province. It was headed for extinction due to goats being put on the island, but after the removal of goats the tree is making a comeback.



Channel Island Tree Poppy *Dendromecon harfordii* Family: Papaveraceae (Poppy Family)

Found only on the Channel Islands off the coast of southern California. *Dendromecon* is the only woody member of the Poppy Family. There is also a mainland species, *Dendromecon rigida*, which has smaller leaves and flowers.

