Flowering perennials not only provide beauty, but also food and habitat for birds and insects. Choose plant varieties from similar climates to ours, such as other parts of California, the Mediterranean, Australia, and South Africa, to create a lush and colorful landscape, support pollinators, and provide habitat for birds. Select native plants that bloom in the spring, summer, and fall to provide a year-round food source.

Moonshine Yarrow *Achillea x 'Moonshine'*

Achillea 'Moonshine' (moonshine yarrow), perennial, 1-2 feet tall and wide, upright and clump-forming, with aromatic, deeply dissected, silvery gray-green leaves and broad, flattopped clusters of tiny, lemon yellow flowers on 2- to 3-foot, leafy stems in summer. Believed to be a hybrid between A. clypeolata, a silvery gray-leaved species native to the Balkan Peninsula, and A. aegyptiaca (A. taygetea), a low-growing, gray-leaved species from Greece. Sun to light shade, well-drained soils.

Sunset: 1-24



Howard McMinn Manzanita Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Howard McMinn'

Arctostaphylos 'Howard McMinn' (Howard McMinn manzanita), evergreen shrub, 6-10 feet tall and wider than tall, with small, leathery, dark green, oval leaves and mahogany red bark. Pendant clusters of small, urn-shaped, pink-tinged, white flowers in winter or early spring are followed by small, red, berrylike fruit. Natural hybrid of A. densiflora and possibly A. stanfordiana discovered in Sonoma County, commonly offered as a selection of A. densiflora. Cool sun to part shade, afternoon shade inland, good to excellent drainage, good air circulation.

Sunset: 7-9,14-21

Blue Grama Bouteloua gracilis 'Blonde Ambition''

Bouteloua gracilis and cultivars (blue grama), 6-12 inches tall, clumping or sod-forming, with fine-textured, bluish gray-green leaves that age to purplish golden brown and feathery, purple-tinged flowers held horizontally on 18-inch stalks. Dormant in summer if grown dry. Native to the Great Plains region from Canada to the southwestern United States. 'Blonde Ambition' is 12-18 inches tall and has chartreuse flowers. Can be mowed as rough turf. May be offered as Chondrosum.

3/4/21

Sunset: 1-3,7-11,14,18-21







Stalked Bulbine
Bulbine frutescens 'Hallmark'

Bulbine frutescens (stalked bulbine), perennial from rhizomes, 1-2 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide, rosette of narrow, cylindrical, succulent, light gray-green leaves and conical clusters of bright yellow, star-shaped flowers on tall stems in spring. Native to the southern coast of South Africa north to Mozambique. Sun to part shade, afternoon shade in hotsummer climates, most soils.

Sunset: 8-9,12-24

Yellow Sundrops Calylophus berlandieri

Calylophus berlandieri (yellow sundrops), perennial or subshrub, 8-12 inches tall and 2-3 feet wide, with narrow, fine-textured, dark green leaves and bright yellow, bowl-shaped flowers in spring and summer. Cascades over walls. Native to dry, sandy or rocky soils from New Mexico and Oklahoma to Texas and northern Mexico. Sun to part shade or afternoon shade, well-drained soils. Cut back in late winter to renew. May be offered as a variety or subspecies of C. drummondianus.

Sunset: 1-3,6-16,18-24





Cape Rush
Chondropetalum tectorum 'El Campo'

Chondropetalum tectorum 'El Campo', (cape rush) perennial, 2-3 feet tall and 3-4 feet wide, with stiff, narrow, dark green, reedlike stems, small, brownish, papery bracts at nodes along the stems, and clusters of tiny, dark brown flowers at stem ends in late summer. Selection of a species native to Western and Eastern Cape provinces, South Africa, near the coast and often in marshes or seeps. Sun to light shade, most soils. Including periodically flooded. May be offered as Elegia.

Sunset: N/A



Little Rev Flax Lily Dianella revoluta 'Little Rev'

Dianella revoluta 'Little Rev' (Little Rev flax lily) perennial from rhizomes, clump forming, 2-3 feet tall and wide, with upright fans of narrowly strap-shaped, bluish gray-green leaves and delicate, branched sprays of small, bluish purple flowers in spring and summer but not every year. Flowers are followed by small, blue berries. Compact selection of a species native to southeastern Australia. May spread slowly by rhizomes to form small colonies. Sun to part shade, most well-drained soils. Good seaside plant. Cut back hard in winter to renew.

Sunset: 8-9,14-24



Silver Carpet Dymondia margaretae

Dymondia margaretae (silver carpet), perennial, dense, tight mat 1-3 inches tall and slowly spreading to 2-3 feet wide, with small, narrow, dark gray-green leaves, silvery white beneath, and small, bright yellow, daisy flowers in summer. Native to coastal Western Cape Province, South Africa. Sun to light shade inland, well-drained soils. Best along the coast.

Sunset: 15-24

California Fuchsia Epilobium canum 'Summer Snow'

Epilobium canum 'Summer Snow', (California fuchsia) perennial, mat-forming, 4-10 inches tall and 1-2 feet wide, with pale gray-green leaves on arching stems and tubular, bright white flowers from late summer into fall. Spreads by rhizomes. Deciduous or semi-deciduous in winter. Species is native to dry slopes and ridges from northern California to northern Baja California. This selection is from southern California's San Bernardino Mountains. Sun near the coast, afternoon shade inland, most well-drained soils. May be offered as Zauschneria.

Sunset: 2-11,14-24







Buckwheat

Eriogonum compositum var. compositum

Eriogonum compositum var. compositum (buckwheat), perennial or subshrub, 1-3 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide, with felted, dark grayish green, oval leaves with a heart-shaped base, silvery white beneath. Broad, flat-topped clusters of tiny, creamy white or sometimes yellow flowers in spring and summer. Flowers age to reddish brown, giving plants a multicolored effect in late summer and fall. Native to rocky or gravelly soils from the eastern slopes of the Cascade Range in central Washington east and south through western Idaho to northern California. Sun to part shade, fast drainage.

Sunset: N/A

Saffron Buckwheat Eriogonum crocatum

Eriogonum crocatum (saffron buckwheat), evergreen shrub, 1-2 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide, with woolly, silvery gray-white leaves and stems and flat-topped clusters of tiny, saffron yellow flowers in spring and summer. Flowers age to reddish brown, giving a multi-colored effect in late summer and fall. Native to dry, rocky slopes in the northwestern Santa Monica Mountains in Ventura County. Cool sun to light shade, good drainage. Best along the coast in southern California.

Sunset: 14-24



Woolly Sunflower Eriophyllum nevinii 'Canyon Silver'

Eriophyllum nevinii 'Canyon Silver' (woolly sunflower), evergreen shrub, 3-6 feet tall and wide, with finely divided, silvery gray-white leaves and tight clusters of tiny, golden yellow, early-summer flowers that age to a rich, dark brown. Species is native to rocky coastal bluffs on the southern Channel Islands. Sun, good to excellent drainage. Best near the coast. Cut back in late fall or winter to maintain dense form. May be offered as Constancea. Sunset: 15-17,19-24





Myrtle Spurge Euphorbia myrsinites

Euphorbia myrsinites (myrtle spurge), perennial, 6 inches to 1 foot tall and 1 foot to 18 inches wide, with oval, blue-green, triangular leaves densely and symmetrically arranged around trailing stems. Showy yellow bracts surrounding small, greenish yellow flowers in late winter or early spring take on red tones in summer. Native from southeastern Europe to central Asia. White sap may be irritating to skin and eyes. Self-sows prolifically. Considered a noxious weed in Washington, Oregon, and Colorado. Sun to part shade, most soils.

Sunset: N/A





Blue Oat Grass Helictotrichon sempervirens

Helictotrichon sempervirens (blue oat grass), cool-season bunchgrass, 2 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide, with blue-gray leaves and light tan, mid-summer flowers on tall spikes a foot or more above the foliage. Native to southwestern Europe, from France to Italy. Cool sun to part shade, excellent drainage. Best near the coast and in cooler summer climates. May be short lived.

Sunset: 1-12.14-24

Seascape Mat Rush Lomandra confertifolia 'Seascape'

Lomandra confertifolia 'Seascape' (Seascape mat rush), perennial, 1-2 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide, with narrow, grasslike, dark blue-gray leaves that arch over to the ground and flowering stems, somewhat shorter than the leaves, bearing clusters of creamy yellow, spring or summer flowers with noticeably bristly bracts. Selection of subspecies rubiginosa, which is native to open forests in New South Wales, Australia. Sun to part shade, most soils.

Sunset: N/A







Dwarf Mat Rush Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze'

Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze' (dwarf mat rush), perennial, clump forming, 2-3 feet tall and wide, with grasslike, bright green leaves and flowering stems, usually shorter than the leaves, bearing clusters of tiny, whitish yellow, spring or summer flowers with noticeably bristly bracts. Compact selection of a species native to varied habitats in eastern Australia. Sun to part shade, most soils.

Sunset: N/A

Santa Cruz Island Ironwood Lyonothamnus floribundus aspleniifolilus

Lyonothamnus floribundus subsp. aspleniifolius (Santa Cruz Island ironwood) evergreen tree, 25-50 feet tall and 15-25 feet wide, with dark green leaves divided into narrow, deeply notched leaflets and fibrous, reddish gray bark that peels to reveal shiny, red underbark. Clusters of creamy white flowers in late spring to early summer are followed by persistent brown seedpods. Native to rocky soils on north-facing slopes on the northern Channel Islands. Cool sun along the coast, part shade or afternoon shade inland, excellent drainage. Best near the coast.

Sunset: 14-17,19-24





White Muhly Grass Muhlenbergia capillaris `White Cloud`

Muhlenbergia capillaris 'White Cloud', (white muhly grass) warm-season bunchgrass, 3-4 feet tall and wide, with narrow, blue-green leaves and a haze of creamy white flowers on stems a foot above the leaves in fall. Species is native to grasslands and open woodlands from Massachusetts to Kansas south to Florida and west to Texas. 'White Cloud' may be a selection of the variety filipes (now M. sericea). Sun to light shade, most well-drained soils.

Sunset: 4-24



Pine Muhly Muhlenbergia dubia

Muhlenbergia dubia (pine muhly), warm-season bunchgrass, 1-2 feet tall and 2 feet wide, with fine-textured, bright green leaves and tall plumes of purple-tinged, creamy white flowers in late summer and fall. Self-sows but not aggressively. Native to desert mountains from Arizona to southwestern Texas and northern Mexico. Sun to light shade, fast drainage, good air circulation.

Sunset: 3b,7-24



Lindheimer Muhly
Muhlenberia lindheimeri 'Autumn Glow'

Muhlenbergia lindheimeri 'Autumn Glow', (Lindheimer muhly), warm-season bunchgrass, upright to 3-4 feet tall and wide, with fine-textured, medium green to bluish gray leaves and 5- to 6-foot stems with pale yellow, late-summer flowers that age to tan. Self-sows but not aggressively. Species is native to Texas and northern Mexico and has creamy white flowers that age to silvery gray. Sun to light shade, most soils, good air circulation. Accepts periodic flooding.

Sunset: 6-24

Turkish Sage Phlomis russeliana

Phlomis russeliana (Turkish sage), perennial, 1-2 feet tall and 4-5 feet wide, with felted, olive green leaves and whorled clusters of soft yellow, tubular flowers at intervals on upright stems in summer. Spreads by rhizomes. Native to forest and woodland openings in the mountains of Turkey. Sun to part shade, fast drainage, good air circulation.

Sunset: 2-24







Coast Live Oak

Quercus agrifolia

Quercus agrifolia (coast live oak), evergreen tree, 35-75 feet tall and 35-50 feet wide, dense and broadly rounded, with leathery, dark green leaves with spiny margins and small, reddish brown acorns. Native along the coast and in the coastal mountains from northern California to northern Baja California. Sun to part shade, most well-drained soils. Best in mild climates. Young trees do best in part shade.

Sunset: 7-9,14-24

Mexican Blue Sage Salvia chamaedryoides

Salvia chamaedryoides (Mexican blue sage), perennial, 1 foot tall and spreading to 2-4 feet wide, with small, silvery graygreen, aromatic leaves and small, bright blue flowers on tall stems in late spring and fall and intermittently in summer. Native to the high desert in mountains of eastern Mexico. Sun to light shade, fast drainage.

Sunset: 8-9,12,14-24





Marine Blue Sage Salvia x 'Marine Blue'

Salvia 'Marine Blue', (Marine Blue sage), perennial or subshrub, 2-3 feet tall and slowly spreading by rooting stems to 3-4 feet wide, with aromatic, oval to almost triangular, felted, gray-green leaves, densely hairy and whiter beneath, and dark blue-violet flowers in summer or almost year round in mild-winter climates. Parentage unknown but sometimes offered as a selection of S. chamaedryoides. Cool sun to part shade, afternoon shade inland, well-drained soils.

Sunset: N/A



Germander

Teucrium majoricum

Teucrium majoricum (germander), perennial, less than 1 foot tall and 2-3 feet wide, with aromatic, narrow, graygreen leaves, whitish beneath, and pinkish lavender flowers in spring and early summer. Native to rocky soils on the Mediterranean island of Mallorca, Spain. Sun to light shade, perfect drainage. May be offered as a T. cossonii.

Sunset: 7-9,14-24d



