

TOYON

Heteromeles arbutifolia



Toyon are beautiful plants and easy to grow. In the early summer it produces small white flowers in dense bunches, followed by bright red berries. The fruit persists well into the winter, providing food for birds including American Robins, Northern Mockingbirds, Hermit Thrushes and Cedar Waxwings. The flowers are visited by butterflies and other insects and have a mild, hawthorn-like scent.

This perennial shrub is native throughout the western part of California and the Sierra foothills. It is a prominent component of the coastal sage scrub plant community, and is a part of drought-adapted chaparral and mixed oak woodland habitats. It is also known by the common names Christmas berry and California holly from the bright red berries it produces. The city of Hollywood was named for this plant.

If properly situated, they can grow very quickly, up to 10 feet in three years. They like sun or part shade, though they tend to do better in part shade in the southern, drier part of their geographic range. They can handle a wide variety of soils, including clay, sand and serpentine, but need more moisture than most chaparral shrubs. They do well near seasonal creeks, seeps, bottom of slopes, or irrigated areas. These plants tolerate a fair amount of summer water, up to 1x per week if the drainage is good. Toyon can be planted near houses since they are fire retardant when given enough moisture. They are an excellent hedge plant.

Toyon berries are acidic and astringent. Raw berries were eaten fresh, or mashed into water to make a beverage by Native Americans.

THIS PLANT SUPPORTS

9 species of butterflies, moths and birds including:



AMERICAN ROBIN



HERMIT THRUSH



CEDAR WAXWING



NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD

Bees, butterflies and moths use the flowers and leaves, while birds eat the berries and use the branches as protective nesting habitat.



SIZE 6 - 30 ft tall / 10 - 15 ft wide



SUN Full Sun to Part Shade



WATER Low Water Use



SOIL Tolerant / PH 5.0-8.0



FLOWERS White / Summer Blooms



photo © Eric Koberle

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



BUSH LUPINE

Lupinus arboreus



Yellow bush or coast bush lupine is widely distributed in coastal scrub and sand dunes. Growing to 7ft tall in sheltered situations (hence the alternate common name, tree lupine), this hearty perennial shrub is capable of tolerating temperatures down to 10°F and living up to seven years.

A member of the Fabaceae (Legume family), it is native to the western United States in California and Oregon. However, because it has been widely introduced, there is some uncertainty about its native range; it is thought to be native from Point Reyes National Seashore south to San Luis Obispo County. It is also considered somewhat invasive and has likely spread well out of its original range, especially around Humboldt Bay. It has green to gray-green palmate leaves, with 5-12 leaflets per leaf. The leaflets are 2-6 centimeters long, often sparsely covered with fine silky hairs. Both yellow and lilac to purple flowering forms are known; however, the yellow form is more common, except in the north of the species' range. There is one recognized variety, San Mateo tree lupine (var. *eximius*) which has lavender flowers and is limited to San Mateo and Marin Counties.

Yellow bush lupine requires fast draining soil and prefers full sun. It prefers to grow on bluffs, dunes and slopes, and grows quickly and aggressively. Although it is easy to grow and showy, it should not be planted where it might invade wild areas or where it cannot be controlled.

THIS PLANT SUPPORTS

39 species of butterflies, moths and birds including:



WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW



GOLD-CROWNED SPARROW

Bees, butterflies and moths use the flowers and leaves, while birds eat the seed pods and use the shrub as protective nesting habitat.



photo © Al Kordes; above © Daniel Das



SIZE 3.5 - 7 ft tall / 4 ft wide



SUN Full Sun



WATER Low Water Use



SOIL Sandy / PH 4.0-7.0



FLOWERS Yellow / Spring Blooms

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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CALIFORNIA FUCHSIA

Epilobium canum



There's probably no better California native plant for attracting hummingbirds. California fuchsia is easy to grow. It does best and will flower most profusely in full sun. In the wetter, northern part of its range or near the coast, this plant will typically require no supplemental water after established. In the drier, hotter, inland southern areas, it will often die without summer water unless planted close to an irrigated or other wet area. You can water it 1x/month without much danger.

Epilobium canum is a beautiful species of willowherb, native to the California foothills and coastal areas. It is a perennial plant, notable for the profusion of bright scarlet flowers in summer and autumn — it's usually the only native California plant in an area flowering at the height of summer. Plants tend to get straggly after flowering by late fall or early winter and go dormant. Best to cut them back to the ground as soon as the flowers are spent, and they'll come back lush and healthy in the spring. Otherwise, they'll look straggly and unhealthy the next year, and are more likely to die. This plant will readily self-seed, so once you get this species established, it will usually start springing up around your garden. It also spreads by rhizomes.

Other common names include hummingbird flower and hummingbird trumpet (the flowers are very attractive to hummingbirds). *Epilobium canum* is often found by seasonal creeks, seeps and spring, particularly in the drier southern part of its range.

This plant is on several fire resistant plant lists, including FireSafe Marin and County of San Diego.

THIS PLANT SUPPORTS

15 species of butterflies, moths and birds including:



ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD



WHITE-LINED SPHYNX MOTH

Bees, butterflies and moths use the flowers and leaves, while birds drink from the trumpet-like flowers.



photo © Cara; above © Dan Horowitz



SIZE 0.25 - 1.5 ft tall / 2 - 3 ft wide



SUN Full Sun to Part Shade



WATER Very Low Water Use



SOIL Tolerant / PH 6.0-8.0



FLOWERS Red / Summer & Fall Blooms

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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COAST BUCKWHEAT

Eriogonum latifolium



***Eriogonum latifolium* is a species of wild buckwheat known by the common names seaside buckwheat and coast buckwheat. This plant is native to the coastline of the western United States from Washington to central California, where it is a common resident of coastal bluffs and scrub.**

This is a perennial herb which is quite variable in size and flower color, depending on its location along the coast and degree of exposure to the stiff maritime winds of its habitat. It may be quite small or sprawl to a maximum height of 70 centimeters. Its pale white-green leaves are oval, woolly, and sometimes waxy, and are mostly basal but extend a ways up the erect stem if there is one. At the end of each branch is a cluster of white to pinkish flowers.

Plant *Eriogonum latifolium* on rocky slopes or rock walls. This plant shouldn't need supplemental water after its first year when planted in its natural range. It prefers full sun very close to the ocean, but likes part shade in areas that are more inland. Used in landscaping for bank stabilization and groundcover.

THIS PLANT SUPPORTS

31 species of butterflies, moths and birds including:



CALIFORNIA TOWHEE



HOUSE FINCH



GOLDFINCH



DARK-EYED JUNCO

Bees, butterflies and moths use the flowers and leaves, while birds eat the seeds.



SIZE 1.7 - 2.3 ft tall / 3 ft wide



SUN Full Sun



WATER Very Low Water Use



SOIL Prefers Fast Draining (rocky or sandy) / PH 5.5-7.0



FLOWERS White or Pink / Summer to Fall Blooms



photo © Uselaine

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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