

HOLLYLEAF CHERRY

Prunus ilicifolia



This evergreen cherry species is native in coastal areas of California and Baja California. The leaves look a bit like holly, dark green and shiny on top with spiny margins. The fruit is a cherry, 12-25mm in diameter, and edible.

Birds love the fruit and use the tree to nest or hide within. It is useful for bank stabilization and is deer resistant.

This plant has long been used as an ornamental hedge. It is attractive to native bees, along with other insects. It is also called Islais Cherry, as Islais Creek in San Francisco was formerly lined with this tree.



photo © Noreen Weeden

BIODIVERSITY VALUE

HIGH: 140 likely California Lepidoptera host on this plant

BUTTERFLIES/MOTHS

Western Tiger Swallowtail, Pale Tiger Swallowtail, Elegant Sphinx Moth

BIRDS

Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Oak Titmouse, Song, White-crowned and Gold-crowned Sparrows, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Woodpeckers, Hooded Orioles, American Crows, California Scrub Jays, American Robin, Hermit and Swainson's Warblers, Nuthatches, Northern Mockingbirds, California Thrasher, Bewick's and House Wrens, Hutton's Vireos, and Cedar Waxwings



WESTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL



CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEE



OAK TITMOUSE



TYPE Tree



SIZE 30-49' tall / 20' wide



SUN Full sun, part shade



WATER Very low.
Water 1 x month maximum once established



SOIL Tolerates variety of soils but best in coarse, fast draining fertile garden soil

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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Resources: *Calscape, Doug Tallamy, Kathy Kramer Bringing Back the Natives, National Audubon*
Photo credits: *Noreen Weeden, Kristen Nelson, Jennifer Monsen, Sean Haight, Robb Hannawacker*



CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



COYOTE MINT

Monardella villosa



Also called Coyote Mountain Balm this is a fragrant plant that produces white, pink or purple flowers in the summer. It attracts butterflies if grown in the sun and is deer resistant.

This mint can be used for tea. It was used by native people for medicinal purposes. It smells good to most humans and may detract herbivores.



photo © Robert Hall

BIODIVERSITY VALUE

7 California Lepidoptera host on this plant

BUTTERFLIES/MOTHS

Pale Swallowtail, Western Tiger Swallowtail, Monarch

BIRDS

Orioles, Vireos, Wood Warblers, Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds, Cedar Waxwings, White-crowned and Golden-crowned and Song Sparrows, Northern Mockingbirds and California Thrasher



PALE SWALLOWTAIL



HOODED ORIOLE



HUTTON'S VIREO



TYPE Perennial herb



SIZE 2' tall / 3' wide



SUN Full sun, part shade. Slopes, drainage areas, chaparral and woodlands.



WATER Very low



SOIL Variety of soils including serpentine

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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Resources: Calscape, Doug Tallamy, Kathy Kramer Bringing Back the Natives

Photo credits: Scott Loarie, S. Gene, Dario Taraborelli, Robert Hall



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YARROW

Achillea millefolium



Yarrow is a pleasant smelling herb that attracts butterflies and other insects and can be used in a pollinator garden or meadows. It flowers in the spring and summer and works well as a groundcover. For optimal growth, divide the plant annually.

Native Americans sought Yarrow for medicinal uses, including treating sunburn and other issues. The Spanish called it plumajillo, or small feather, because of the feather looking leaves.



photo © Noreen Weeden

BIODIVERSITY VALUE

19 Insects and California Lepidoptera host on this plant

BUTTERFLIES/MOTHS

5-10 including Variable Checkerspot

BIRDS

Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds, House Finch, Song, White and Gold-crowned Sparrow, California and Spotted Towhees



VARIABLE
CHECKERSPOT



ANNA'S
HUMMINGBIRD



HOUSE
FINCH



TYPE Perennial herb



SIZE 1-3' tall / 0.5-1.5' wide



SUN Full sun, part shade or full shade



WATER Low. 1x week once established



SOIL Any soil type. Has deep roots and helps prevent erosion.

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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Resources: Calscape, Doug Tallamy, Kathy Kramer Bringing Back the Natives

Photo credits: Noreen Weeden, Dario Taraborelli, Eric Porter



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COYOTE BUSH

Baccharis pilularis



Coyote bush is an evergreen shrub, which is easy to grow and attracts wildlife. It is fire and deer resistant, can survive floods, and can be pruned or sheared.

Male and female flowers grow on separate plants (dioecious) and are different colors, male flowers yellow, female flowers white. It blooms in the fall. A member of the sunflower family, it was once called "fuzzy-wuzzy" because of the hairy pappus on the seeds.



photo © Noreen Weeden

BIODIVERSITY VALUE

HIGH: 37 species of California Lepidoptera host on this plant

BUTTERFLIES

Includes the Gabs Checkerspot Butterfly, Coyote Brush Gall Moth and Orange Tortrix Moth

BIRDS

House and Gold Finches, Orioles, Titmice, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Woodpeckers, Hutton's Vireos, Northern Mockingbirds, California Thrashers, White-crowned and Gold-crowned and Song Sparrows, California Towhee, American Crows, California Scrub Jays, Black-headed Grosbeak, Hermit and Swainson's Warblers



CALIFORNIA
TOWHEE



GOLDFINCH



HOODED
ORIOLE

photo © Eddie Bartley



TYPE Shrub



SIZE 1.5-10' high / 12' wide



SUN Full sun.
Bank stabilization. Low growing version makes an excellent groundcover. Grows from Baja California to Oregon.



WATER Very low, low water.
Maximum 1 x week once established



SOIL Can grow in clay, sand, alkali soils

Learn more at: cnps-yerbabuena.org

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Resources: *Calscape*, *Doug Tallamy*, *Kathy Kramer Bringing Back the Natives*, *National Audubon*
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