

## Santa Barbara County Plants for Pollinators and Other Beneficial Insects

Compiled by the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, using references by Robbin Thorp, Gordon Frankie, Claire Kremen, and the Xerces Society, as well as our own data.

Scientific name	Growth Form	Common name	California distribution notes	Bloom Period and Color													
				Bloom time	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	PH	Yarrow	Throughout CA except desert	Apr-Aug													
<i>Acmispon americanus americanus</i> ( <i>Lotus purshianus</i> )	AH	Spanish clover	Throughout CA except desert & Central Valley	April-July													
<i>Acmispon glaber</i> ( <i>Lotus scoparius</i> )	SS	Deerweed	CA Coast, Central Valley	Mar-Aug													
<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>	S	Chamise	Coastal CA; Ring around Central Valley	June-Aug													
<i>Agrostis pallens</i> (nesting habitat)	PG	Bentgrass	Most of CA except desert & Central Valley	Apr-May													
<i>Amorpha californica</i>	S	California false indigo	Mostly coast, Sonoma to San Diego co's	Apr-July													
<i>Arctostaphylos</i> 'Howard McMinn'	S	Howard McMinn manzanita	*cultivar	Jan-Feb													
<i>Arctostaphylos glandulosa</i>	S	Eastwood manzanita	Coastal CA	Jan-Feb													
<i>Arctostaphylos glauca</i>	S	Bigberry manzanita	Coastal So. CA	Jan-Feb													
<i>Arctostaphylos purissima</i>	S	Purisima manzanita	Coastal northern SB co.	Jan-Feb													
<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	PH	Narrow-leaf milkweed	Throughout CA except desert	June-Sept													
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	S	Coyote bush	Mostly coastal CA	Oct-Dec													
<i>Berberis pinnata</i>	S	Coast barberry	Coastal CA	Feb-May													
<i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i>	S	Wedgeleaf ceanothus	Coastal CA & ring around Central Valley	Feb-Apr													
<i>Ceanothus</i> "Julia Phelps"	S	<i>Ceanothus</i> "Julia Phelps" cultivar*															
<i>Ceanothus</i> "Ray Hartman"	S	<i>Ceanothus</i> "Ray Hartman" cultivar*															
<i>Ceanothus oliganthus</i>	S	Hairy ceanothus	Coastal CA	Mar-May													
<i>Ceanothus spinosus</i>	S	Green-bark ceanothus	Coastal CA from SLO County south	Mar-May													
<i>Ceanothus thyrsiflorus</i>	S	Blueblossom	Coastal CA 'o' #	Mar-May													
<i>Chrysothamnus</i> ( <i>Ericameria</i> ) <i>nauseosa hololeuca</i>	S	Rubber rabbitbrush	Only at extreme N of SB County	July-Oct													
<i>Cirsium occidentale</i>	PH	Cobweb thistle	Most of CA except desert & Central Valley	May-July													
<i>Clarkia unguiculata</i>	AH	Elegant clarkia	Ring around the Central Valley, coastal so. CA	June-Sept													
<i>Collinsia heterophylla</i>	AH	Chinese houses	Widespread in CA	Feb-Apr													
<i>Croton</i> ( <i>Eremocarpus</i> ) <i>setiger</i>	AH	Dove weed	Common throughout CA except desert	May-Oct													
<i>Deinandra</i> ( <i>Hemizonia</i> ) <i>fasciculata</i>	AH	Clustered tarweed	Common on So. CA coast	May-Oct													

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					Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Deinandra (Hemizonia) increscens increscens</i>	AH	Grassland tarweed	mostly SB & SLO coasts, No. Channel Islands	June-Sept							Yellow	Yellow				
<i>Dendromecon harfordii</i>	S	Island bush poppy	*Channel Islands	March-Nov				Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	
<i>Dendromecon rigida</i>	S	Bush poppy	Coastal CA, SN foothills	Feb-May		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow								
<i>Diplacus (Mimulus) aurantiacus</i>	S	Bush monkeyflower	Ring around the Central Valley, coastal So. CA	March-Aug				Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange					
<i>Encelia californica</i>	S	CA encelia; Bush sunflower	Coastal So. CA	Feb-June		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow								
<i>Epilobium canum</i>	PH	California fuchsia	Ring around the Central Valley, coastal So. CA	Aug-Oct									Red	Red		
<i>Erigeron glaucus</i>	PH	Seaside daisy	Coastal No. CA (to SB co.), Channel Islands	Jan-Aug		Light Purple	Light Purple	Light Purple	Light Purple	Light Purple	Light Purple	Light Purple				
<i>Eriodictyon tomentosum</i>	S	Wooly yerba santa	Ventura to Monterey/San Benito Co.'s	May-July						Light Purple	Light Purple					
<i>Eriogonum arborescens</i>	S	Santa Cruz Island buckwheat	*Channel Islands	Apr-Oct						Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange	
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	S	California buckwheat	So. CA (common)	Apr-Sept						Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange			
<i>Eriogonum grande var. rubescens</i>	PH	Island buckwheat/ Redflower buckwheat	*Channel Islands	Apr-Oct						Light Red	Light Red	Light Red	Light Red	Light Red	Light Red	
<i>Eriogonum nudum</i>	S	Naked buckwheat	Throughout CA	May-Aug						Light Orange	Light Orange	Light Orange				
<i>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</i>	SS	Golden yarrow	CA coast to Sonoma co.; Sierra Nevada	Feb-Aug		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow					
<i>Erysimum capitatum</i>	PH	Wallflower	Throughout CA	Mar-July			Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow					
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	AH, PH	California poppy	Throughout CA	Apr-July				Orange	Orange	Orange						
<i>Euthamia occidentalis</i>	PH	Western goldenrod	Throughout CA except desert	Aug-Oct								Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
<i>Festuca californica</i> (nesting habitat)	PG	California fescue	CA coast from SB co. north; a bit in L.A.	Feb-Apr												
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	PH	California strawberry	Throughout CA except Valley & deserts	Feb-May												
<i>Frangula (Rhamnus) californica</i>	S	California coffeeberry	Throughout CA	June-Aug							Light Yellow	Light Yellow				
<i>Fremontodendron californicum</i>	S	California flannelbush	Throughout CA mountains	May-June						Yellow	Yellow					
<i>Fremontodendron mexicanum</i>	S	Mexican flannelbush	Mostly San Diego	March-June			Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange						
<i>Gambelia (Galvezia) speciosa</i>	S	Island snapdragon	*Southern Channel Islands	Feb-May		Red	Red	Red	Red							
<i>Gilia capitata</i>	AH	Bluehead gilia	Throughout CA	Feb-Apr		Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue								
<i>Grindelia camporum</i>	PH	Common gumplant	Throughout CA	April-Oct					Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
<i>Grindelia hirsutula</i>	PH	Hairy gumweed	Throughout CA	June-Sept							Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			

It is most beneficial to plant in clumps, and to make sure that there is something blooming throughout the year. Happy Planting!

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<i>Grindelia stricta</i>	PH	Coastal gumweed	Coast of CA N. of northern SB co.	May-Oct						Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
<i>Hazardia squarrosa</i>	SS/S	Sawtooth goldenbush	Monterey co. south along coast	June-Oct							Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	
<i>Helenium puberulum</i>	PH	Sneezeweed	Mostly CA coast	June-Aug							Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	AH	Common sunflower	Throughout CA	June-Aug							Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
<i>Helianthus gracilentus</i>	PH	Slender sunflower	Mostly Monterey co. south along coast	May-Sept						Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	PH	Seaside heliotrope	Throughout CA	May-June												
<i>Hemizonia congesta</i>	AH	Hayfield tarweed	Mostly No. CA along coast; some records in Ventura & SB co.'s	Aug-Oct									Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	
<i>Hesperoyucca (Yucca) whippleyi</i>	S	Chaparral yucca	So. CA mostly along coast	Apr-June												
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	S/T	Toyon	Throughout CA coast & Sierra Nevada foothills	June-Aug												
<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	S	Oceanspray, Creambush	Throughout CA except deserts & Central Valley	May-July												
<i>Horkelia cuneata</i>	PH	Wedge-leaf horkelia	Along coast from San Diego to Marin co.'s	Feb-July												
<i>Isocoma menziesii</i>	S	Menzies' goldenbush	Monterey Co. south along coast	Apr-Nov						Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
<i>Lasthenia californica</i>	AH	Goldfields	Throughout CA except desert	Feb-June		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow						
<i>Lepechinia fragrans</i>	S	Fragrant pitcher sage	Ventura, L.A., Channel Islands	Mar-Oct												
<i>Leptosyne (Coreopsis) gigantea</i>	S	Giant coreopsis	So. CA Coast from SB co., Channel Islands	Jan-May	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow						
<i>Lupinus albifrons</i>	S	Silver bush lupine	Most of CA except desert	Apr-July												
<i>Lupinus microcarpus</i>	AH	Chick lupine	Most of CA except desert	May-June												
<i>Lupinus succulentus</i>	AH	Succulent lupine	Mostly coastal CA	Feb-May												
<i>Madia elegans</i>	AH	Common madia	Most of CA except desert	June-Sept												
<i>Malacothamnus fasciculatus</i> var. <i>fasciculatus</i>	S	Bush mallow	Coastal So. CA	April-July												
<i>Malva (Lavatera) assurgentiflora</i>	S	Malva rosa	*Channel Islands	Feb-July												
<i>Mentzelia affinis</i>	AH	Yellow comet	Mostly So. CA	Apr-May												
<i>Mentzelia laevicaulis</i>	PH	Blazing star	Scattered throughout CA	Apr-Oct												
<i>Mentzelia lindleyi</i>	AH	Lindley's blazing star	Mostly Santa Clara, San Benito co.'s; a bit in So. CA	May-June												
<i>Monardella villosa</i>	PH	Coyote mint	From SB County North (coast and mountains)	June-Aug												

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<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i> (nesting habitat)	PG	Deer grass	So. CA coast; Central Valley	May-June													
<i>Nemophila menziesii</i>	AH	Baby blue eyes	Most of CA except desert	Mar-June													
<i>Oenothera elata hookeri</i>	PH	Hooker's evening primrose	Mostly coastal CA	Aug-Sept													
<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>	SS	Foothill penstemon	No. CA, coastal SoCal	May-July													
<i>Peritoma (Cleome) lutea</i>	AH	Yellow bee plant	U @ 'o " # U ay Aug	May-Aug													
<i>Phacelia campanularia</i>	AH	Desert bluebells	Mostly Mojave desert; Some coastal CA	Feb-Apr													
<i>Phacelia cicutaria</i>	AH	Caterpillar phacelia	Coastal So. CA; Sierra Nevada foothills	March-May													
<i>Phacelia imbricata</i>	PH	Imbricate phacelia	Coastal So. CA; Ring around Central Valley	Feb-Apr													
<i>Phacelia ramosissima</i>	PH	Kambl	Much of CA except desert & Central Valley	May-Aug													
<i>Phacelia tanacetifolia</i>	AH	Tansy-leaved phacelia; Lacy phacelia	Western half of California up to Tehama county	Mar-May													
<i>Plagiobothrys nothofulvus</i>	AH	Rusty popcorn flower	So. CA coast; Ring around Central Valley	Feb-April													
<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>	S-T	Holly-leaf cherry	Coastal CA from Marin co. south	Feb-Apr													
<i>Ribes malvaceum</i>	S	Chaparral currant	CA coast	Dec-Mar													
<i>Ribes speciosum</i>	S	Fuchsia flowered gooseberry	CA coast, Sonoma south	Jan-May													
<i>Rosa californica</i>	SS	California wild rose	No. CA; coastal So. CA	May-Aug													
<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	V/SS	California blackberry	No. CA; coastal So. CA	Feb-May													
<i>Salvia apiana</i>	S	White sage	Coastal So. CA	Apr-July													
<i>Salvia brandegei</i>	S	Santa Rosa Island sage	*Santa Rosa Island	Apr-May													
<i>Salvia clevelandii</i>	S	Cleveland sage	Coastal So. CA	May-Aug													
<i>Salvia leucophylla</i>	S	Purple sage	Coastal So. CA	Apr-July													
<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	S	Black sage	Coastal CA from Marin co. south	Mar-July													
<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	PH	California hummingbird sage	Monterey to Orange County	Feb-July													
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>caerulea</i> ( <i>Sambucus mexicana</i> )	T	Blue elderberry	Most of CA except desert	Mar-July													
<i>Sanicula arguta</i>	PH	Sharp-toothed sanicle	Coastal So. CA	Mar-Apr													
<i>Scrophularia californica</i>	PH	California figwort	Coastal So. CA; Ring around the Central Valley	Feb-May													

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<i>Senecio californicus</i>	AH	California butterweed	Scattered about coastal So. CA, Monterey co. south	Mar-May			■	■	■							
<i>Senecio flaccidus</i>	S	Shrubby ragwort	Most of So. CA to Sonoma co.	June-Oct							■	■	■	■		
<i>Sidalcea malviflora</i>	PH	Checkerbloom	Coastal So. CA; Ring around the Central Valley	May-Aug						■	■	■				
<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	PH	Blue-eyed grass	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	Mar-May			■	■	■							
<i>Solanum xanti</i>	SS	Chaparral nightshade	Coastal So. CA; Ring around the Central Valley	Feb-July		■	■	■	■	■						
<i>Solidago velutina californica</i>	PH	California goldenrod	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	July-Oct							■	■	■			
<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	PH	Desert mallow	*Interior So. CA	Feb-Mar		■	■									
<i>Stachys bullata</i>	PH	Wood mint	Coastal CA, mostly Sonoma co. south	Apr-Sept				■	■	■	■	■				
<i>Stephanomeria virgata</i>	AH	Twiggy wreath plant	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	July-Oct												
<i>Stipa (Nassella) pulchra</i> (nesting habitat)	PG	Purple needlegrass	CA coast, Central Valley	Mar-May												
<i>Symphotrichum chilense</i> (Aster chilensis)	PH	Pacific aster	Coastal CA, northern Central Valley	Jul-Aug							■	■				
<i>Trichostema lanatum</i>	S	Woolly blue-curls	Coastal So. CA	Mar-June			■	■	■	■						
<i>Trichostema lanceolatum</i>	AH	Vinegarweed	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	Aug-Oct								■	■			
<i>Trifolium albopurpureum</i>	AH	Indian clover	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	Mar-June			■	■	■	■						
<i>Trifolium ciliolatum</i>	AH	Foothill clover	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	April-May				■	■							
<i>Trifolium gracilentum</i>	AH	Pinpoint clover	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	April-June				■	■	■						
<i>Trifolium microcephalum</i>	AH	Maiden clover	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	April-June				■	■	■						
<i>Trifolium wildenovii</i>	AH	Tomcat clover	Coastal So. CA; No. CA	April-May				■	■							
<i>Verbena lasiostachys</i>	PH	Western vervain	Coastal CA; Ring around Central Valley	Apr-Sept				■	■	■	■	■				
<i>Vicia americana</i>	PH/V	American vetch	Most of CA except desert, Central Valley	Mar-June			■	■	■	■						
<i>Vicia ludoviciana</i>	AH	Louisiana vetch	Coastal So. CA, Channel Islands	Mar-June			■	■	■	■						

\* Note: Cultivars are fine for urban use, but for more wildland locations, native stock collected locally is the best choice. Santa Barbara Natives nursery tracks the source locations for all of their stock.

Key:  
 AG = annual grass                      PH = Perennial herb  
 AH = annual herb                      S = Shrub  
 F = Fern                                      SS = Subshrub  
 PG = Perennial grass                      T = Tree