

Cotinus coggygria



Photo by: Andrea Bryan © 2001

Common Name: Smoke Bush

Family: Anacardiaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A large shrub/small tree which grows to 15' with bluish-green foliage that turns red in fall. Flowers appear as puffs of smoke.

Water needs: Low supplemental water.

Special Features: Tolerates poor and rocky soil. Purple-leaved varieties are most commonly available.

Cotoneaster sp.



Photo by: Margaret Hanna © California Academy of Science

Common Name: Cotoneaster

Family: Rosaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: Includes a wide selection of evergreen and deciduous shrubs ranging in size from 4' to 10'. All produce white flowers in spring and red berries in winter. Generally look best if not pruned, but allowed to keep natural fountain shape.

Water needs: Low supplemental water.

Special Features: Can be used on banks.

Dendromecon rigida



Photo by: Bob Perry

Common Name: Bush Poppy

Family: Papaveraceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A medium to large shrub from 5' to 10' high with colorful yellow flowers in late spring to early summer.

Water needs: Low to very low supplemental water.

Special Features: Often used on slopes.

Elaeagnus pungens



Photo by: Bob Perry

Common Name: Silverberry

Family: Elaeagnaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A medium to large evergreen shrub growing 6'-15' high by equal width.

Water needs: Low to moderate supplemental water.

Special Features: Exhibits tolerance of heat, drought, wind and poor soil.

Feijoa sellowiana



Photo by: Philippe Faucon © 1998

Common Name: Pineapple Guava

Family: Myrtaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A large evergreen shrub to small tree growing 15'-25' high and wide. Has green leaves with silver undersides 2"-3" long, and showy red and white flowers that cover the shrub in late spring-early summer.

Water needs: Low supplemental water once established.

Special Features: Has unique bark when pruned for visibility, edible fruit and flower petals; can be used to form a hedge.

Fremontodendron californicum



Photo by: Br. Alfred Brousseau © St. Mary's College

Common Name: Flannel Bush

Family: Sterculiaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A medium to large evergreen shrub growing from 10'-20' high with an abundance of showy yellow flowers for a short time in early summer months.

Water needs: Low supplemental water, avoid watering in summer months. Needs excellent drainage.

Special Features: Foliage and flowers are irritants to the skin.

Garrya elliptica



Photo by: Br. Alfred Brousseau © St. Mary's College

Common Name: Silk Tassel Bush

Family: Garryaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A large evergreen shrub with leathery, dark green foliage and cream-colored, tassel-like flowers from late winter to early spring.

Water needs: Low supplemental water.

Special Features: Heat and drought tolerant.

Grevillea 'Canberra'



Photo by: Bob Perry

Common Name: Canberra Gem

Family: Proteaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: A mounding shrub 5'-10' high and 6'-12' across, with needle-like leaves and bright red flowers in early spring.

Water needs: Low to moderate supplemental water.

Special Features: Can be used as a hedge with shearing. Branches are "prickly". Heat, cold and drought tolerant. Deer resistant. Sensitive to salts in water or soil. Fertilize lightly. Other good selections include 'Noellii', 'Constance', and 'Scarlet Sprite'.

Grevillea 'Noellii'



Photo by: Bob Perry

Common Name: None

Family: Proteaceae

Light: Full sun.

Characteristics of plant: Evergreen shrub 4' tall and 4'-5' wide. Densely clad with narrow, prickly, medium green leaves.

Water needs: Low to moderate water.

Special Features: Clusters of pink and white flowers in spring. Deer resistant. Heat, cold and drought tolerant. Sensitive to salts in water or soil.

Heteromeles arbutifolia



Photo by: Michael Charters ©2003

Common Name: Toyon

Family: Rosaceae

Light: Full sun or partial shade.

Characteristics of plant: Evergreen shrub 6'-10' tall and wide, or small tree 15'-25' tall and wide. Leathery leaves with pointed teeth are 2"-4" long. Small white flower clusters in summer are followed by red berries in fall.

Water needs: Very low to moderate water.

Special Features: Flowers attract bees and berries attract birds. Can tolerate drought.

Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii'

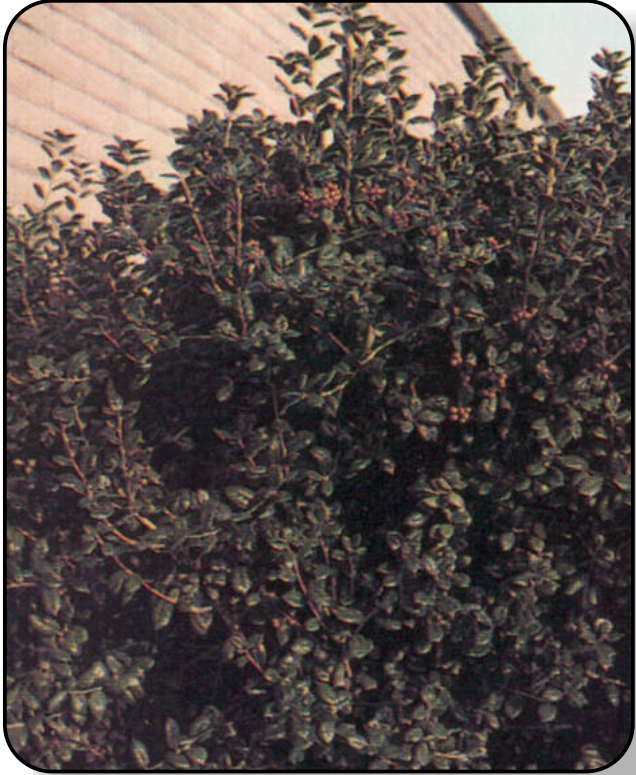


Photo by: Gordon Courtright

Common Name: Burford Holly
 Family: Aquifoliaceae
 Light: Full sun or partial shade.
 Characteristics of plant: Evergreen shrub 15' tall and 10' wide. Has nearly spineless glossy leaves and long-lasting bright red berries.
 Water needs: Regular water.
 Special Features: Produces berries without a male variety. Prefers rich, slightly acid soil with good drainage.

Juniperus sp.



Photo by: Bob Perry

Common Name: Juniper
 Family: Cupressaceae
 Light: Full sun to partial shade.
 Characteristics of plant: Evergreen conifers that range from ground covers to small trees. Produce small berry-like fruits instead of cones.
 Water needs: Little to regular water, depending on soil conditions.
 Special Features: Very tolerant of various soil types, but avoid over-watering. Be careful to select the right variety for the location. Mostly deer resistant.