

Native Plants for Containers



Mimulus species – Monkeyflowers

favorite.

A widely variable species with large showy flowers. They have many garden uses and are great in containers. *Diplacus aurantiacus* [*Mimulus aurantiacus*] – Sticky monkeyflower is a local



Heuchera species – Alumroot, Coral Bells

A favorite garden plant with attractive rosettes of leaves and showy flower stalks. There are many choices that are widely available. They are easily increased through division.



Clinopodium douglasii – Yerba Buena, The Good Herb

A low trailing plant with dainty, oval mint-scented leaves. It would make a great “spiller” in a pot. It is edible and makes a great tea. Encourage branching with light pruning.



Monardella villosa – Coyote Mint

A small perennial herb that is wonderfully fragrant, medicinal and loved by butterflies. Great to enjoy up close.



Triteleia laxa – Ithuriel Spear

Easy care bulbs with umbels of white, purple or blue-violet flowers. An important food source, digging of parent bulbs dispersed bulblets and ensured an abundant food supply.



Prunella vulgaris – Self heal

Easily grown by seed, division or by planting stolons. Leaves and flowers are edible. Has many medicinal uses and could also be used as a small groundcover due to its spreading habit.



Dudleya species – Live Forever

Reputed to live 50-100 years. Some of the most rewarding California succulents to have in the garden. UCSC is at the forefront in saving highly prized species that are rare in the wild.



Solidago velutina – California goldenrod

One of the late blooming perennials with masses of yellow flowers. Great for birds, butterflies and bees or as a groundcover.



Calochortus albus – White Globe Lily or Fairly Lantern

This lily will send up a 1-2' branched flower stalk with pearly white nodding flower orbs. It is sometimes available at nurseries.



Native Plants for Monterey County



Malacothamnus – Bush Mallow

Fast growing fire-followers great for erosion control. They are vigorous spreaders that are often short-lived. Coppicing can extend the life of colonies indefinitely. Prone to pests.



Penstemon centranthifolius – Scarlet Bugler

A favorite garden plant with showy red flowers that attract hummingbirds. Has been known to thrive in containers. Great in a rock garden but tolerates clay soil too.



Atriplex lentiformis – Quail Bush

A large shrub that is an excellent wildlife plant attracting many birds. It can tolerate a lot of harsh conditions including alkalinity, salinity, heat, cold and drought.



Salvia spathacea – Hummingbird sage

Fabulous flowers and fruity fragrance. Spreads by underground rhizomes and can be used as a groundcover.



Muhlenbergia rigens – Deer Grass

An easy care grass that looks good year-round. Wonderful as a specimen or planted in large groups. Deer resistant and great for erosion control.



Lepechinia calycina – White Pitcher Sage

An aromatic shrub in the mint family that is endemic to California.



Asclepias californica– California milkweed

Milkweeds are host plants to Monarch butterflies and essential to their survival. Best to plant them if you live in its' natural range. Check the plant map on Calscape or Calflora.



Platystemon californicus– Cream Cups

Annual wildflower in the poppy family. One of the earliest wildflowers to bloom. Plant them in masses. Would also be nice in a container to enjoy up close.



Brodiaea terrestris– Dwarf Brodiaea

This lily is common and will flourish in pots. They are sometimes found growing under Monterey Pines blooming in April or May.



Ribes aureum – Golden Currant

Golden yellow flowers and edible berries. Easy to grow. Benefits from some watering but can withstand dry and drought conditions.

