

**UC DAVIS**  
**ARBORETUM**



*All Stars*

# Beautiful Plants for Central Valley Gardens

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# What makes an *All-Star*?

## Every All-Star plant must:

- Be attractive for most of the year
- Thrive in Central Valley conditions
- Be tested in the UCD Arboretum

## All-Stars were also selected for:

- Low maintenance
  - Drought tolerance
  - Attracting beneficial wildlife
  - Year-round interest
- 



# Why the *All-Stars* ?

- Increasing urban growth plus decreasing water supplies
- **Save time and money**
  - **Less water, care, chemicals**
- Support wildlife-the 4 Bs
  - Bees, butterflies, birds, beneficial insects
- **Our unique "Mediterranean" climate**



# ***Plant Intro. Program***

## Brief History

- 50 plants recommended for Central Valley
- Irrigation and Climate Zone Trials
- Commercial partners + 50 more plants

# Irrigation Trials: 4 levels of water





# Trial Gardens in 11 Sunset hardiness zones



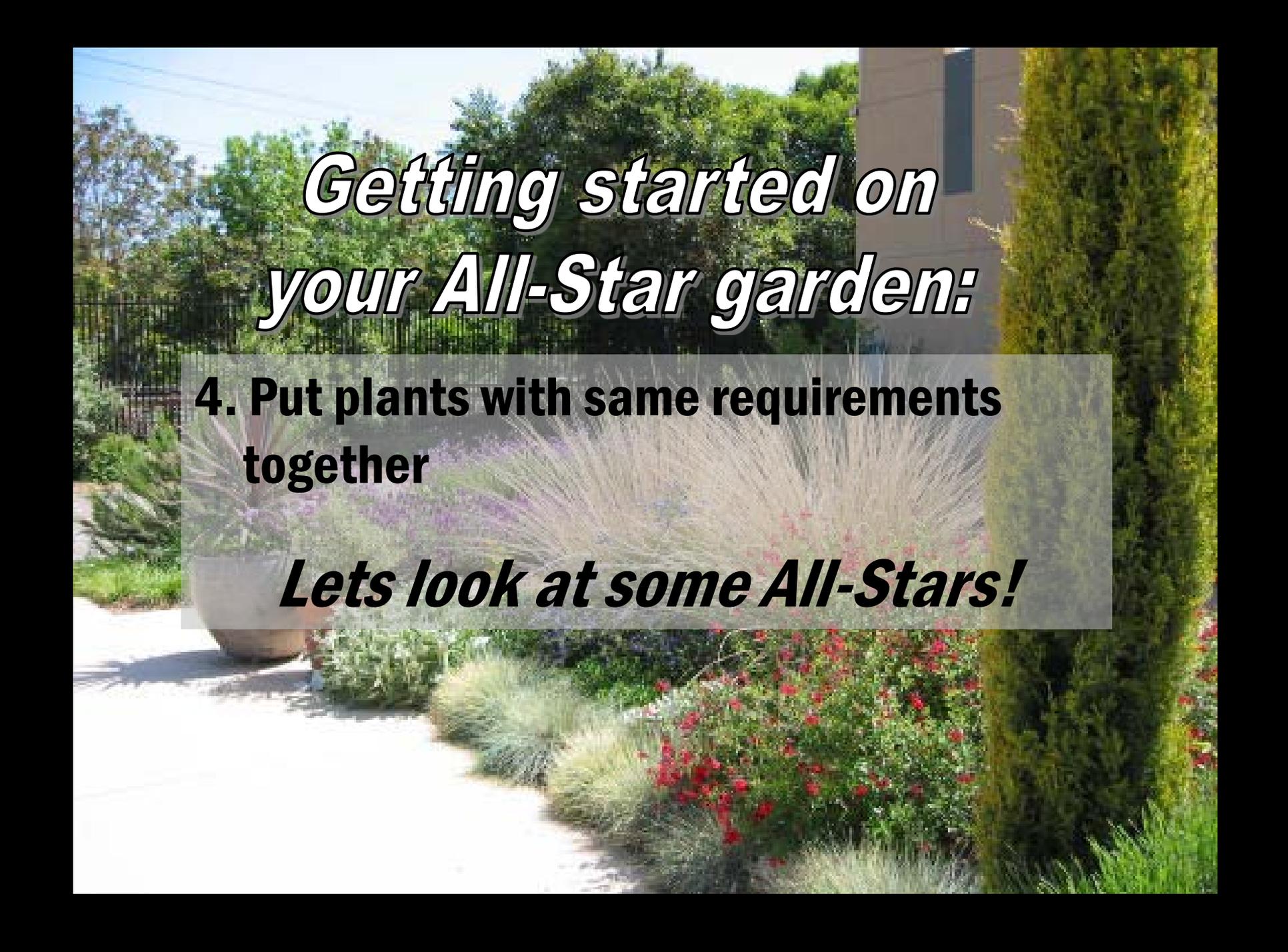
# Master Gardeners monitor:

- Growth
  - Foliage Appearance
  - Floral display
  - Pests and/or Disease Damage
  - Overall health and vigor
  - OTHER:
    - Frost damage, animal damage
- 



# ***Getting started on your All-Star garden:***

- 1. Water regularly during first year to establish plants-*deeply* and *slowly***
- 2. Water deeply and infrequently in following years**
- 3. Mulch to conserve moisture and reduce temperature of soil**

A photograph of a garden with a path, various plants, and a building in the background. The garden features a light-colored path, a large potted plant with purple flowers, and a bush with red flowers. A tall, thin evergreen tree is on the right. The background shows a building and more trees under a clear sky.

***Getting started on  
your All-Star garden:***

**4. Put plants with same requirements  
together**

***Lets look at some All-Stars!***



Perennials-shade

Serpentine Columbine

*Aquilegia eximia*



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# Perennials-shade



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Rosy Coral Bells  
*Heuchera rosada* (and others)

A photograph of a garden bed. In the foreground, there are several large, green, heart-shaped leaves of Heuchera maxima plants. The garden bed is bordered by wooden planks. To the left, a large, dark tree trunk is visible. In the background, there are tall, golden-brown grasses and more green foliage. The text "CA Native" is overlaid in yellow with a blue outline on the right side of the image.

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*Heuchera maxima*



# Perennials-shade

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Lenten rose

*Helleborus x hybridus*



- low evergreen
- Blooms in winter to 1 ft.

# Perennials- shade

Pigsqueak

*Bergenia crassifolia*



- Low evergreen
- Blooms in winter

# Perennials-semi-shade

## Hummingbird Sage

*Salvia spathacea*



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# Perennials-semi-shade

## Palmer's Sedum- *Sedum palmeri*

- Slowly creeping groundcover
- Blooms in spring
- Good plant for pots!



# Perennials-semi-shade

**Cape balsam- *Bulbine frutescens***



courtesy of Native Sons Nursery



# SUN Perennials

## *Iris PCH Hybrid 'Canyon Snow'*



- Spring bloomer
- Evergreen foliage

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# SUN Perennials

## *Penstemon* 'Margarita BOP'



- Non-stop bloomer
- Evergreen foliage



# SUN Perennials

## 'Max Frei' Soapwort

*Saponaria x lempergii*

- Low, mounding evergreen
- Blooms in spring to fall



# SUN Perennials

**California fuchsia**

*Epilobium sp.*



- Low mound
- Attracts hummingbirds!!!

# SUN Perennials

**Santa Barbara daisy**  
*Erigeron karvinskianus*



**Snow-in-summer**  
*Cerastium tomentosum*



- Low mounds
- Spread slowly

# *Grasses/ grasslike plants*

California fescue



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Blue grama grass



**CA Native**

Giant feather grass



# *Shrubs-shade*

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*Daphne odora* 'Aureomarginata'  
**HIGHLY FRAGRANT!**



- **Small (2')**  
**Evergreen**
- **Blooms in**  
**winter**

# Shrubs- Shade/semi-shade

## Oregon grape

*Berberis aquifolia* 'Compacta'



- Fruit for native birds
- Good for under oaks
- Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects
- Blooms winter/spring

# Shrubs-semi shade

## Golden currant

*Ribes aureum*

**SPICY FRAGRANCE!**

- Medium-large
- Good for under oaks
- Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects
- Blooms in winter-spring

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# Shrubs-semi shade

## Western spice bush

*Calycanthus occidentalis*



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# SUN Shrubs

‘Valley Violet’ California lilac  
*Ceanothus maritimus*



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# SUN Shrubs

'Gruss an Achen' floribunda rose  
and 'Otto Quast' Spanish lavender



# SUN Shrubs- 2 lavenders

‘Otto Quast’ Spanish lavender



‘Goodwin Creek Grey’



# Autumn sage

*Salvia greggii* and *Salvia x jamensis*



# SUN Shrubs



'Marie Simon' wild lilac  
*Ceanothus x pallidus*

- Semi-deciduous
- Attractive red stems



# SUN Shrubs

Lynn's everblooming

Texas sage

*Leucophyllum langmaniae*

'Lynn's Legacy'



# SUN Shrubs

Vine hill manzanita

*Arctostaphylos* 'Howard McMinn'



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- Tolerates clay soils
- Attractive to hummingbirds and ben. insects

# SUN Plants for winter bloom

**Winter honeysuckle**



**Winter jasmine**



*Think low-water  
use Forsythia!*

# SUN Plants for winter bloom

## 'Christmas Cheer' Torch Lily



# Vines for hot, dry gardens



**Chilean jasmine**  
*Mandevilla laxa*



**Violet trumpet vine**  
*Clytostoma callistegioides*

# SUN Perennials Combo:

*Cool colors*



# SUN Combo:

*Red, white and blue:*



# SUN Combo:

*Hot colors*

California goldenrod



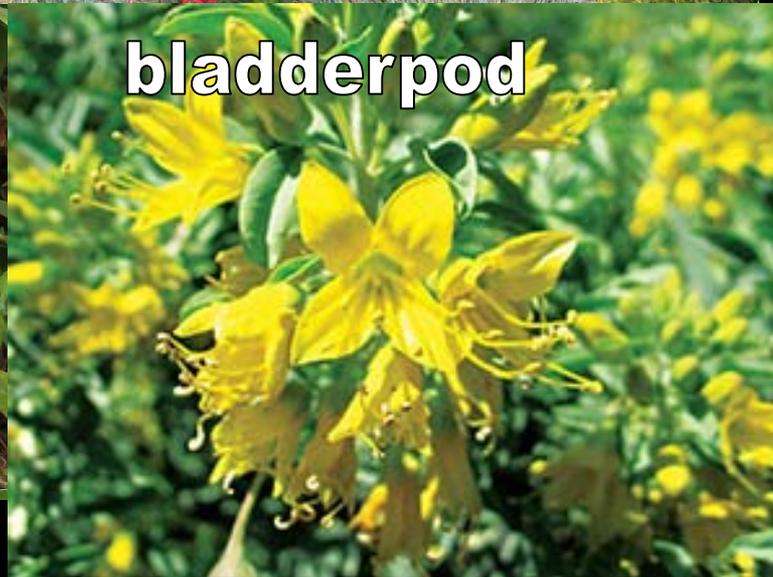
California fuchsia



Autumn sage



bladderpod



# SUN Combo: *Primary colors*



**bladderpod**



**Autumn sage**

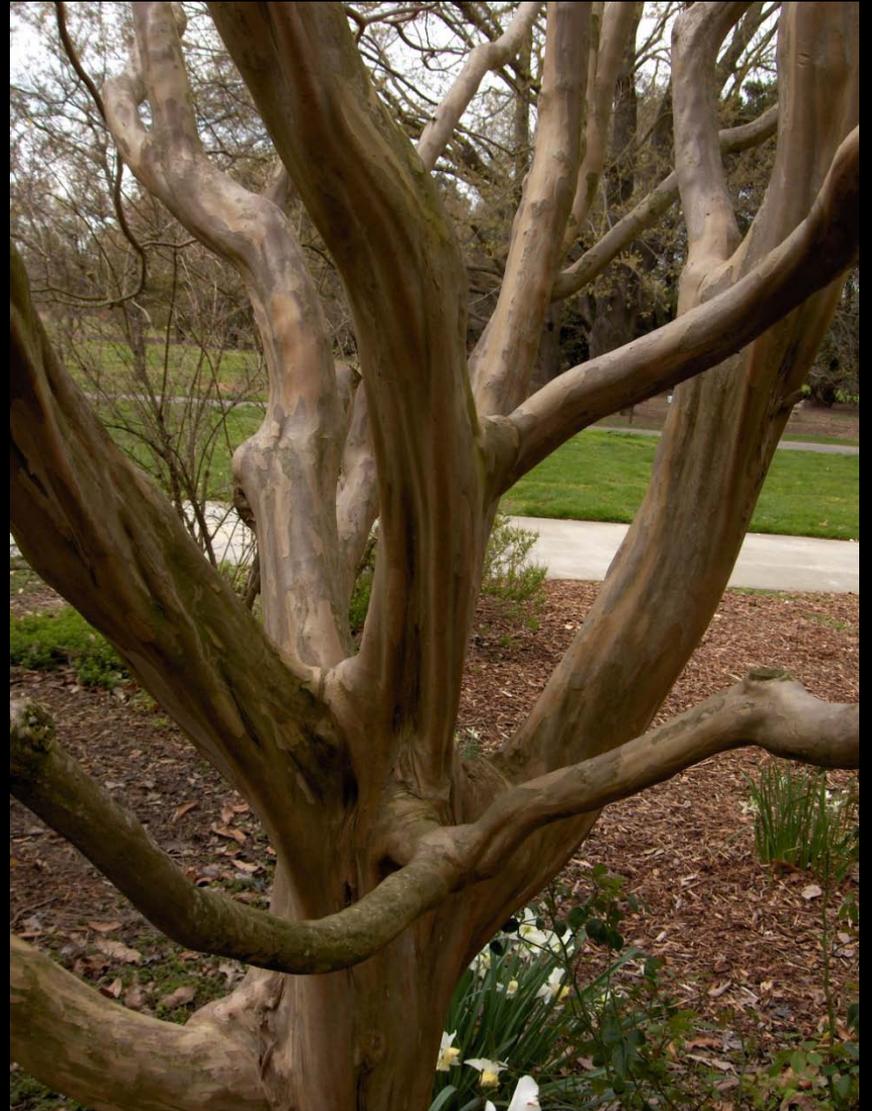


**'Purple dome' Aster**



Large shrub/ small tree

**Crape myrtle** – *Lagerstroemia* hybrids



# All-Star Trees-small

Snowy River wattle

*Acacia boormanii*



# All-Star Trees-small

Island mountain mahogany  
*Cercocarpus betuloides* 'blanchae'



large evergreen hedge



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# All-Star Trees-small

Western redbud

*Cercis occidentalis*

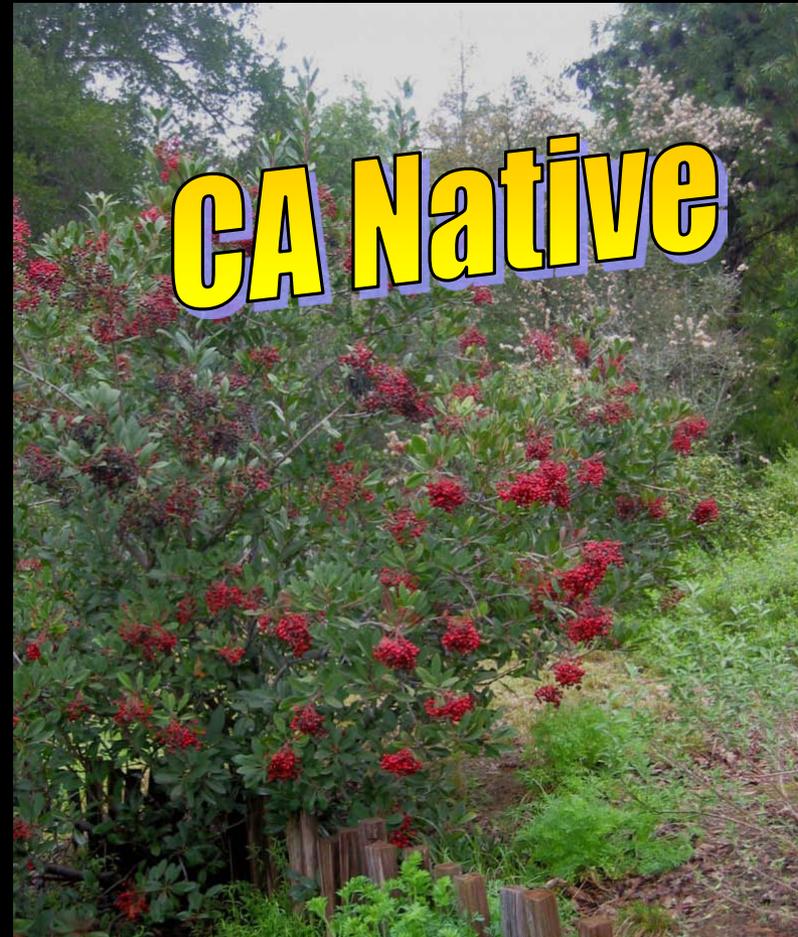
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# All-Star Trees-small

Toyon, Christmas berry

*Heteromeles arbutifolia*



# All-Star Trees-medium

Chilean lily-of-the-valley tree

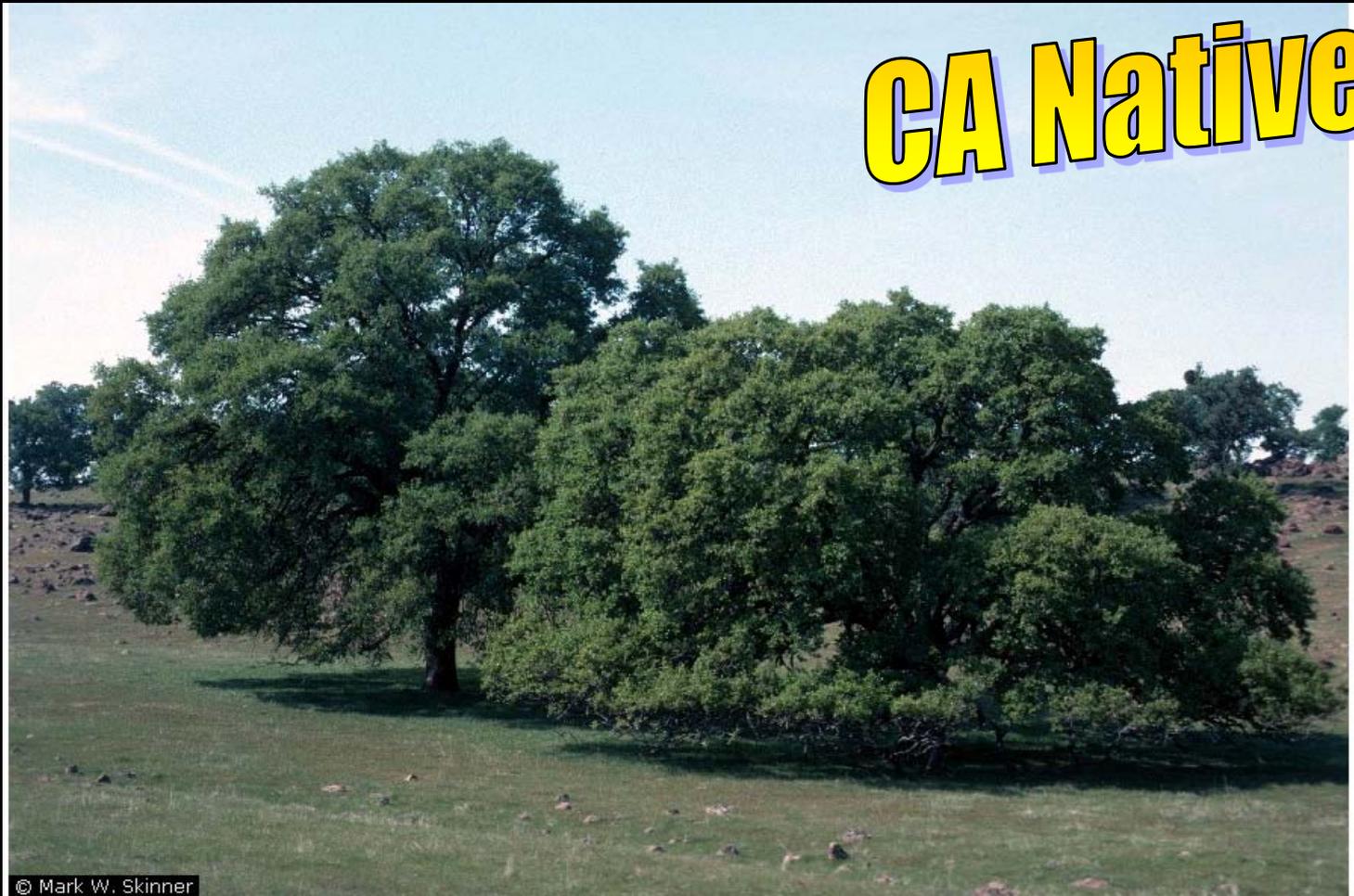
*Crinodendron patagoue*



# All-Star Trees-large

Valley Oak  
*Quercus lobata*

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# A searchable plant guide

## <http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu>

UC Davis Arboretum All-Stars Simple Search

http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/searchSimple.aspx

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fax: (530) 752-5780

Please search our Arboretum All-Stars plant database to find the UC Davis Arboretum's top recommended plants for Central Valley gardens. To begin, fill in any search criteria and click Submit Search.

### Simple Search

Common Name:

Latin Name:

Plant Type:

Flower Color:  
 Blue  Gold  Green  Lavender  Orange  Pink  Purple  
 Red  Yellow  Violet  White  Multi  Tan

Wildlife Value:

Water Use:

Exposure:  
 Full Sun  Full Sun or Part Shade  Afternoon Shade  Shade

California Native:  Yes  No  Both

**5 plants have met your search criteria, scroll down to view results.**

**Wayne Roderick seaside daisy**

**Description:** The native perennial sports cheerful lavender flowers over a long bloom season, providing food for butterflies and beneficial insects in spring, summer, and into the fall.

  
Photo: Clyde Elmore

  
Photo: Clyde Elmore

[Click here for details on \*Erigeron\* 'Wayne Roderick'](#)

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- Ellen Zagory, UC Davis Arboretum
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- Native Sons, High Ranch, Mountain States Wholesale Nurseries
- California Center for Urban Horticulture

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