

TREES

TREES

Acer macrophyllum
Acer negundo [Acer negundo var. californicum]
Aesculus californica
Alnus rhombifolia
Alnus rubra
Arbutus menziesii
Ceanothus oliganthus var. soledadensis
Cercocarpus betuloides var. betuloides
Chrysolepis chrysophylla var. minor
Corylus cornuta subsp. californica [Corylus cornuta var. californica]
[Cypress sargentii] Hesperocyparis sargentii
Euonymus occidentalis var. occidentalis
Forestiera pubescens
Fraxinus dipetala
Fraxinus latifolia
Hesperocyparis sargentii [Cupressus sargentii]
Juglans hindsii [Juglans californica var. hindsii]
Juniperus californica
Morella californica [Myrica californica]
[Myrica californica] Morella californica
Pinus attenuata
Pinus coulteri
Pinus sabiniana
Platanus racemosa
[Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa] Populus trichocarpa
Populus fremontii subsp. fremontii
Populus trichocarpa [Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa]
Prunus emarginata
Prunus ilicifolia subsp. ilicifolia
Prunus virginiana var. demissa
Quercus agrifolia var. agrifolia
Quercus berberidifolia
Quercus chasei
Quercus chrysolepis
Quercus douglasii
Quercus durata var. durata
Quercus kelloggii
Quercus lobata
Quercus palmeri
Quercus wislizeni var. frutescens
Quercus wislizeni var. wislizeni
Salix exigua
Salix gooddingii
Salix laevigata
Salix lasiolepis

TREES page 2

Salix lasiandra var. caudata [Salix lucinda ssp. lasiandra]

Salix scouleriana

[Sambucus mexicana] Sambucus nigra subsp. caerulea

Sambucus nigra subsp. caerulea [Sambucus mexicana]

Sambucus racemosa var. racemosa

Sequoia sempervirens

Umbellularia californica



Acer macrophyllum

Big-leaf maple

Sapindaceae [Aceraceae]

- Native to stream banks and canyons.
- Tall deciduous tree can reach 100 feet
- Needs water to roots
- Not drought tolerant
- Host to *Phytophthora ramorum* (sudden oak death) so it may not be taken into unaffected counties



Acer negundo [*Acer negundo* var. *californicum*]

Box elder

Sapindaceae [*Aceraceae*]

- Deciduous tree 30 to 50' tall
- Fall color, leafless in late winter
- Stream stabilizer and fast wind break
- Needs water at first but after the first year drought tolerant
- Grows in any soil but likes to be near a stream



Aesculus californica

Buckeye

Sapindaceae [Hippocastanaceae]

- Riparian tree about 10 to 18' tall but may be shrub-like in dry settings
- Loses its leaves in late summer
- Attractive in winter with white bark and dangling round fruits
- Leafs out early in spring and produces many large creamy white to pink flower spikes



Alnus rhombifolia

White alder

Betulaceae

- Fast growing deciduous tree reaching 20 feet the first year then slower growing the following years
- Native to moist coastal areas
- Will grow in wetter areas where other plants can't grow
- Other natives have a difficult time competing under these trees because they are very dense.
- Thinning may be required



Alnus rubra

Red alder

Betulaceae

- Deciduous tree that grows to about 40 to 50' tall
- Found in wetter areas and low lying flood planes
- Produces a tiny cone
- Partial shade



Arbutus menziesii

Madrone, Pacific madrone

Ericaceae

- Widely branched evergreen tree reaching 16 to 80' tall
- Clusters of white bell-shaped flowers hang from branch ends
- Rough-coated, orange-red berries remain on the tree most of the winter and provide food for robins, cedar waxwings, mockingbirds, acorn woodpeckers, Stellar jays, towhees, flickers, band-tailed pigeons, and others
- The attractive reddish bark splits as the tree grows, revealing a new green or gold layer
- Host plant for larva of western brown elfin butterfly
- Host to *Phytophthora ramorum*, the organism that causes SOD so it may not be transported into unaffected counties



Photo by Gregg Weber

Ceanothus oliganthus var. *sorediatus*

Jim bush

Rhamnaceae

- Erect shrub to small tree, over 9' in height
- Light blue flower appear in spring
- Glossy deep green leaves
- Found on dry, shrubby, slopes
- Good drainage, dry soil, tolerates some shade



Cercocarpus betuloides var. *betuloides*

Mountain mahogany

Rosaceae

- Large shrub or small tree that grows from 6 to over 20' tall
- Likes dry, rocky slopes in chaparral, pine/oak woodlands, or evergreen forests
- Attractive foliage and fruit
- Flowers are not showy



Chrysolepis chrysophylla* var. *minor

Golden chinquapin

Fagaceae

- Slow growing large shrub or small tree 6 to 18' tall
- Evergreen, drought tolerant, difficult to transplant
- Best in dry, well-drained soil
- Leaves leathery yellow green on top and golden underneath
- Fruits are spiny burs with triangular reddish brown nuts inside



Corylus cornuta subsp. *californica*

[*Corylus cornuta* var. *californica*]

Filbert, Hazel

Betulaceae

- Shrub to small tree, can reach 12' tall
- Deciduous, gracefully shaped, branches form horizontal layers
- Woodland shrub tolerates shade but requires sun to flower and bear fruit
- Edible nuts attract wildlife



Hesperocyparis sargentii [*Cupressus sargentii*]

Sargent cypress

Cupressaceae

- Fast growing evergreen tree reaches heights of 70'
- Needs good drainage and full sun
- Will grow in poor soils, serpentine, and in chaparral areas
- Drought tolerant once established
- Bark is dark gray to dark brown
- Cones are woody, 1 inch in diameter



Euonymus occidentalis var. *occidentalis*

Burning bush

Celastraceae

- Deciduous shrub/small tree 6 to 18' tall
- Found in shaded stream banks and canyons
- Tolerates shade and irrigation
- Dark greenish to purplish flowers appear May to June
- Fruits are deep orange/red in fall
- Unusual and significant plant found in only a few locations



Forestiera pubescens

Photos by Gregg Weber

Desert olive

Oleaceae

- Deciduous shrub (6' tall) that blooms early in spring
- Only the female plants produce fruits (elliptical shaped berries green to purple then turning black)
- Flowers (yellow to greenish) bloom before the plant leaves out in spring
- Careful pruning promotes a denser shrub
- Fruits are a food source for birds and mammals
- Plant in full sun



Fraxinus dipetala
Foothill ash, California ash
Oleaceae

- Seriously threatened
- Petals white
- Found growing in chaparral and oak woodlands
- Deciduous
- Under 20' tall



Fraxinus latifolia

Oregon ash

Oleaceae

- Deciduous tree that grows along stream banks and in flood plains; tolerates seasonal flooding
- Grows to 80' tall and likes full sun or partial shade
- Established trees do not need water in summer
- The leaves are broad and provide cooling shade in summer



Juglans hindsii [*Juglans californica* var. *hindsii*]
Black walnut
Juglandaceae

- Unusual deciduous tree or large shrub
- Found along stream banks
- 30 to 60 feet in height
- Nut fruits are small but edible
- Important to wild life: provides food, cover, and nesting for birds and mammals



Photos by Gregg Weber

Juniperus californica
California juniper
Cupressaceae

- Full sun or partial shade
- Evergreen shrub 4 to 12' tall
- Seriously threatened
- Found on dry slopes or flats
- Edible berries on female plants



Morella californica [*Myrica californica*]

Wax myrtle

Myricaceae

- Evergreen shrub or small tree 5 to 30' tall
- Foliage can be quite dense, scented
- Tolerates shade and irrigation
- Uncommon in the East Bay, but may be found in riparian areas
- Makes an attractive, informal hedge



Photos by Gregg Weber

Pinus attenuata
Knobcone pine
Pinaceae

- Cones grow in dense clusters of 3-6
- Found growing in hills of inland chaparral
- 20 to 100' tall, locally smaller, often with poor form & twisted top
- Seriously threatened



Photo by Bob Sikora

Pinus coulteri
Coulter pine, Big cone pine
Pinaceae

- Grows 30 to 80' tall, trunk diameter up to 3' in diameter
- Bark is grey-brown to near black
- Leaves are needle like bundles of 3, grey-green in color 6 to 12" long
- Large spiny cones 8 to 16" long weighing 4 to 10 lbs when fresh

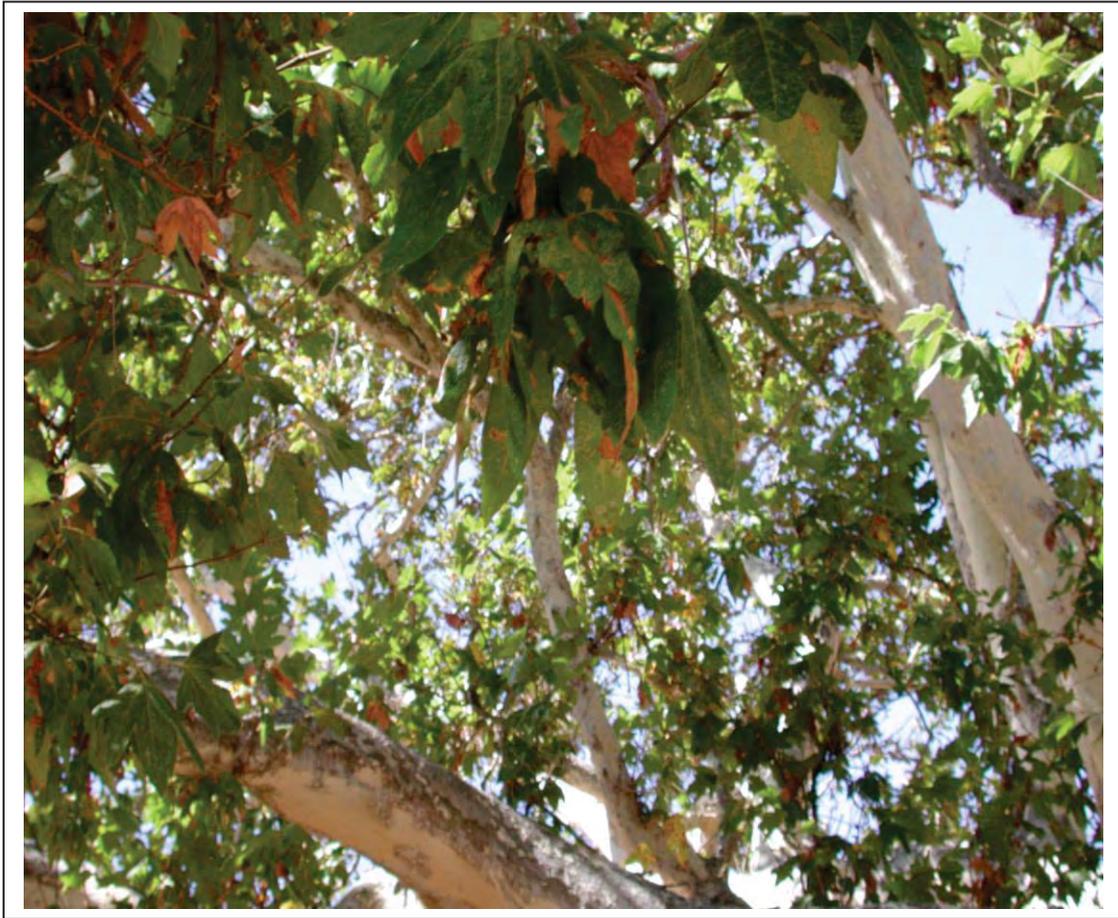


Pinus sabiniana

Gray pine, Foothill pine

Pinaceae

- Moderate sized evergreen conifer from 40 to 80' tall with a thin and open look
- Grows on inland hillsides
- Trunk is often forked or crooked
- Needles are grey, long (8 to 12"), and flexible
- Cones are large and fat



Platanus racemosa
Western sycamore
Platanaceae

- Tall deciduous tree that grows in canyons and along streams on the inland rather than on the coast side of the bay hills
- Very distinctive bark is white, tan, gray in a puzzle piece pattern
- 80 to 100' tall
- Leaves are large and lobed with a fuzzy texture
- Fruits are spiny balls



Populus trichocarpa

[*Populus balsamifera* ssp. *trichocarpa*]

Black cottonwood

Salicaceae

- Deciduous tree 100 to 200' tall
- Grows along rivers, stream banks, and in wetter areas
- Prefers full sun and moist soils
- Do not plant near septic lines as roots will invade and clog lines
- Leaf buds are sticky and emit a balsamic odor



Populus fremontii subsp. *fremontii*

Fremont cottonwood

Salicaceae

- Common deciduous tree in many of our riparian areas
- Grows near streams, rivers, and in wetter areas
- Once established, it can tolerate colder areas in winter and dry conditions in summer
- Leaves turn yellow in fall; blooms in spring are red to yellow



Prunus emarginata

Bitter cherry

Rosaceae

- Deciduous small tree or large shrub (50 feet tall)
- Flowers in spring are small and white in loose flattop clusters
- Fruits are small (1/4") bright red, juicy cherries that are edible but sour
- Bark color is bronze to dark red

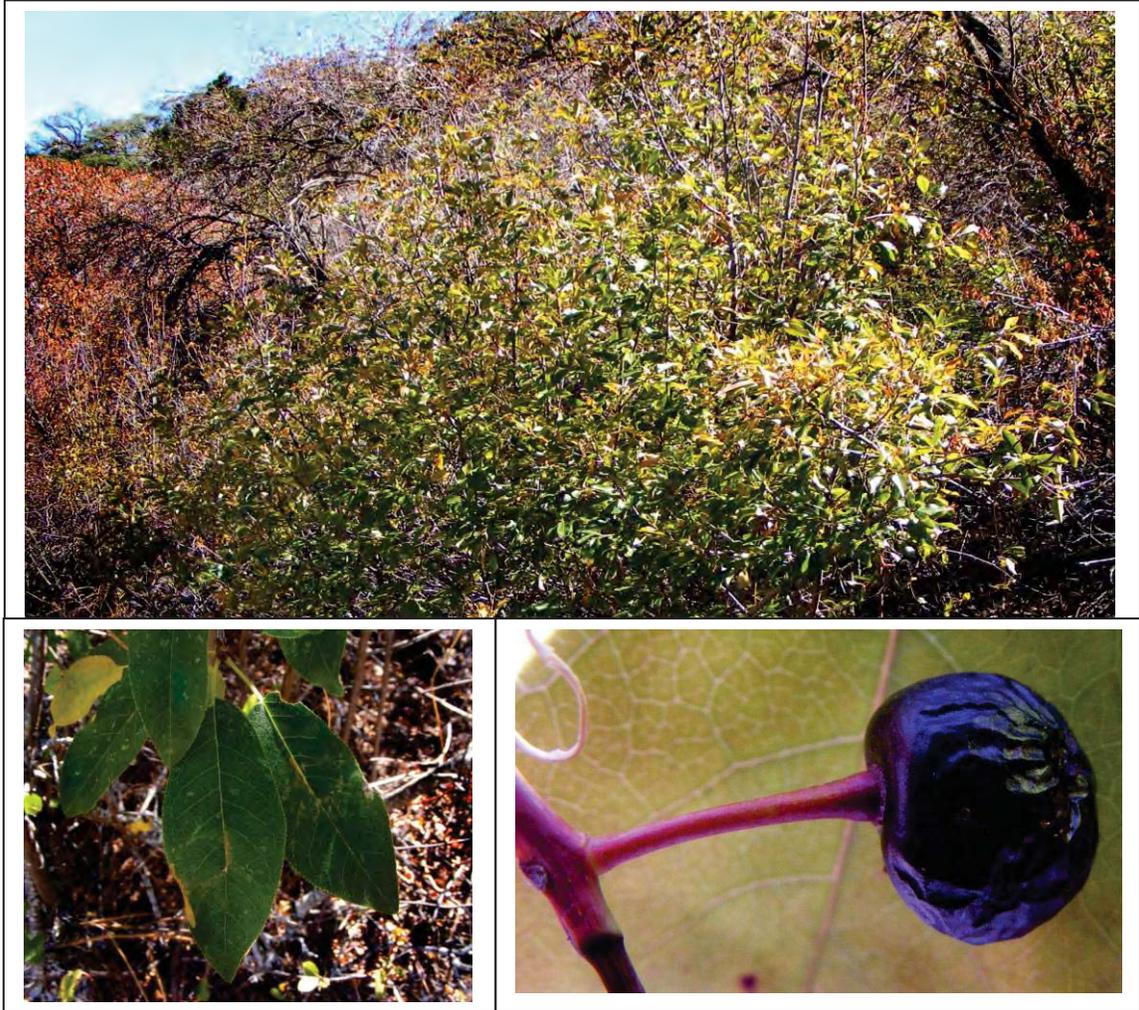


Prunus ilicifolia* subsp. *ilicifolia

Holly-leaf cherry

Rosaceae

- Evergreen shrub to tree less than 30' tall
- Glossy leaves, tiny flowers, red fruits
- Well drained soils in sun or partial shade



Photos by Gregg Weber

Prunus virginiana* var. *demissa

Western choke-cherry

Rosaceae

- Deciduous tree 10 to 14' tall
- Dry sun or part shade
- White flowers in spring and purple berries in fall
- Threatened and on the watch list



Quercus agrifolia* var. *agrifolia

Coast live oak

Fagaceae

- Magnificent, evergreen, spreading tree
- Naturally occur in groves and make wonderful shade trees
- Appears gangly in its youth, however a mature tree grows from 30 to 75 feet tall with a spread from 60 to 100 feet
- Its tiny flowers produce handsome acorns in the fall
- Leaves fall after a year but new leaves have already appeared
- Takes full to part shade and likes well drained soil
- Do not plant other species requiring plentiful water within the root zone
- Oaks are the basis for a complex food web. The acorns are food for at least 30 species of birds. Oaks also attract California sister and echo blue butterflies.



Photos by Gregg Weber

Quercus berberidifolia

Scrub oak

Fagaceae

- Evergreen shrub to small tree, typically 3-10' tall
- Found growing in chaparral and open woodland areas
- Needs good drainage and sunlight
- Threatened but not seriously



Quercus chasei
Gander oak
Fagaceae

Photos by Gregg Weber

- This oak is unusual in our area
- It is a cross between *agrifolia* and *kelloggii*
- It can become a huge tree 90 to 100' (bigger than the two trees it was crossed with)
- It seems to get parasitized by something that makes it's acorn caps curve upward on the edges later in the year after they have been formed
- The one growing in our area is about 50 feet from a creek

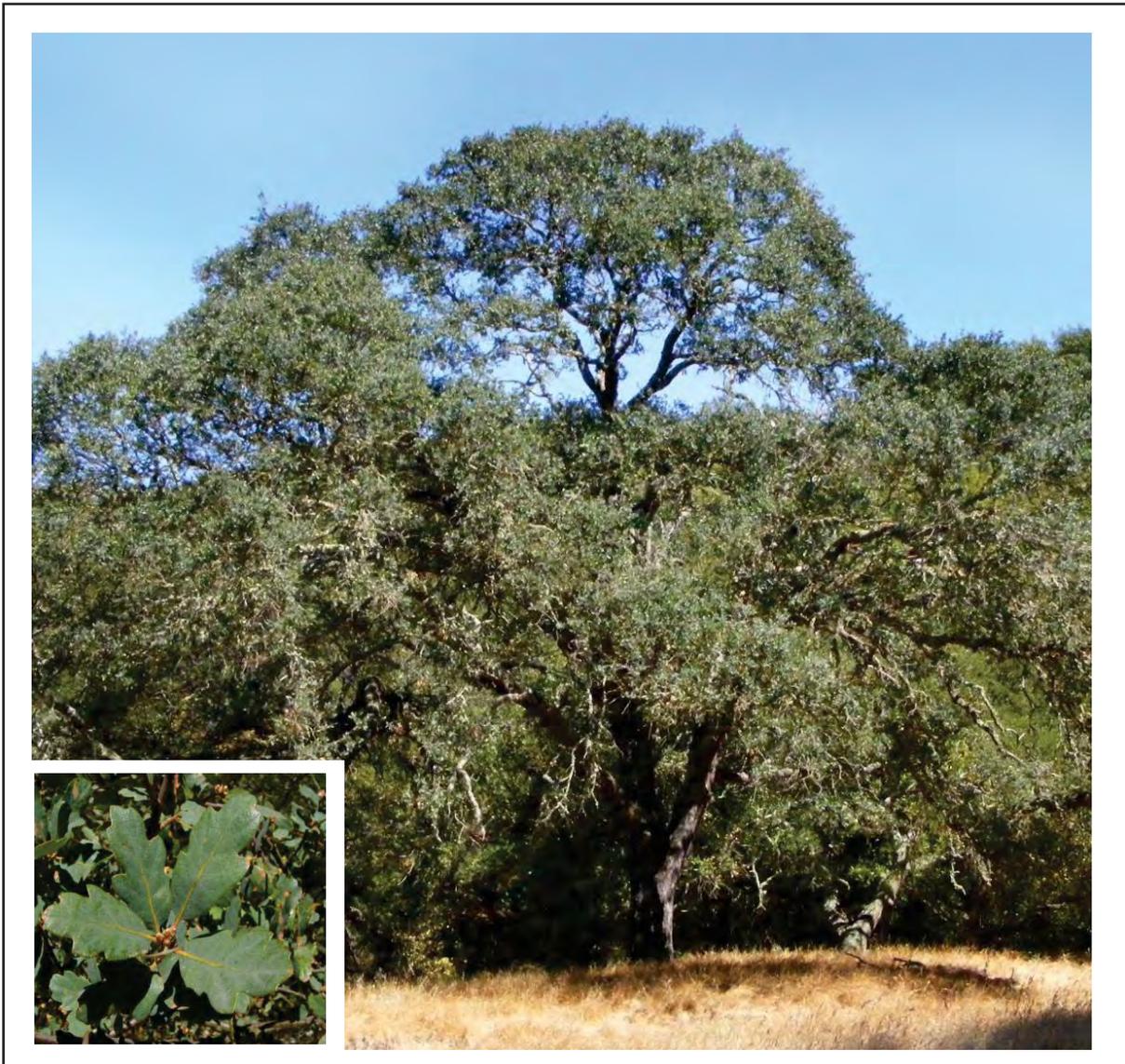


Quercus chrysolepis

Canyon live oak, White live oak, Maul oak

Fagaceae

- Evergreen tree that can grow to a height of 100' tall (but usually under 60') and live for 300 years
- Grows in sheltered canyons and on exposed mountain slopes in chaparral and woodland
- Acorns are an important food source for many animals and birds.



Photos by Gregg Weber

Quercus douglasii
Blue oak, Iron oak
Fagaceae

- Deciduous oak of inland woodland areas
- 30 to 60' tall (but some very large ones with trunks 4-6' in diameter grow in the Mt Diablo vicinity)
- Extensive root system can reach a depth of 80 ' which helps tree survive the hot dry inland summers
- Dozens of species of songbirds eat acorns

Trees



Photo by Gregg Weber

Quercus durata var. *durata*

Leather oak

Fagaceae

- This small evergreen shrub oak (under 10 feet tall) is a good choice for city gardens with little space for a tree
- Grows naturally in the Mt. Diablo area
- Needs little or no watering in summer once established
- Likes plenty of sunshine



Photos by Gregg Weber

Quercus kelloggii
California black oak

Fagaceae

- Broad deciduous tree in woodland
- To 80' in height
- Partial or full sun
- Prefers acidic and serpentine to moist, neutral or alkaline soil



Quercus lobata
Valley oak, Roble
Fagaceae

- Largest of all oaks in North America (100' tall with trunks 6 to 7' in diameter)
- Roots go very deep to reach water so they can survive the hot summers in the Central Valley
- Deciduous
- May develop powdery mildew in summer fog better on the east side of the Bay hills.



Photos by Gregg Weber

Quercus palmeri

Palmer's oak

Fagaceae

- Evergreen shrub to 20' tall
- Found in inland areas in full sun or partial shade
- Drought tolerant
- Two acorns on each twig
- Cap of acorn shell having a woolly inside



Photos by Gregg Weber

Quercus wislizeni var. *frutescens*
Interior live oak
Fagaceae

- Evergreen shrub from 6 to 20' tall
- A component of chaparral
- Needs good drainage and sunlight



Photos by Gregg Weber

Quercus wislizeni var. *wislizeni*

Interior live oak

Fagaceae

- Evergreen tree 30 to 70' tall
- Found in interior canyons, slopes and valleys
- A component of chaparral, pine or oak woodlands
- Rarely found in interior canyons, slopes, and valleys
- Needs good drainage and sun



Main photo by Gregg

Salix exigua

Sandbar willow, Narrow-leaved willow

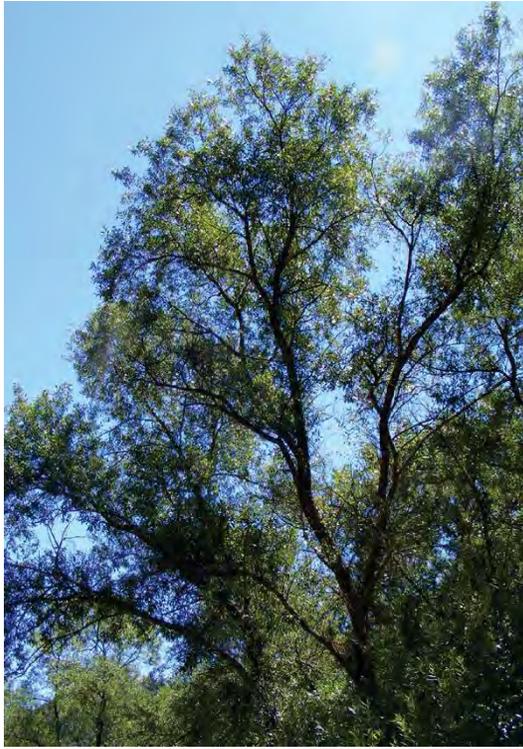
Salicaceae

- Shrub to about 20' tall
- Common on stream sides, marshes or wet ditches
- Wet places in sun or with irrigation



Salix gooddingii
Gooding's black willow
Salicaceae

- Tree to 90 feet in height
- Of wet places—stream sides, marshes, seepage areas, washes and meadows
- Good for stabilizing banks
- Fairly unusual and some what threatened in our area



Photos by Gregg Weber

Salix laevigata

Red willow

Salicaceae

- Deciduous willow that grows from 10 to 50' tall
- Grows near seasonal rivers and streams and will tolerate standing water
- Good for soil stabilization on banks
- Requires plenty of sun
- Flowers are yellow and appear in the spring
- Bark of mature trees is dark and rough
- Young twigs may be red, yellow, or brown



Salix lasiolepis

Arroyo willow

Salicaceae

- Deciduous shrub tree can reach 30' tall but more typically under 12'
- Good for soil stabilization on stream banks
- Full or partial sun
- Essential for wildlife habitat
- All willows are dioecious (male and female plants separate)



Salix lasiandra var. *caudata*

[*Salix lucida* ssp. *lasiandra*]

Shining willow

Salicaceae

- Shrub or tree to 30 feet in height
- Brownish twigs
- Long, finely serrate, shiny leaves
- Common in wet meadows, shores, seepage areas
- Grow in a wet place, tolerates sun or shade



Salix scouleriana

Scouler's willow

Salicaceae

- Shrub or slender tree to 30 feet tall
- Common in dry to moist forests, meadows, springs and swamps
- Tolerates irrigation or plant in wet spots
- Likes sun
- Good bank stabilizer



Sambucus nigra subsp. *caerulea* [*Sambucus mexicana*]
Blue elderberry
Adoxaceae [*Caprifoliaceae*]

- Woody shrub or small tree 6 to 20' tall
- Full or partial sun
- White flowers in flat-topped clusters
- Pale blue fruits are a favorite of birds and other wildlife
- Stems and twigs are quite brittle during the winter
- In colder more open areas, they can go dormant and lose many of their leaves



Photo by Gregg Weber

Sambucus racemosa var. racemosa

Red elderberry

Adoxaceae [Caprifoliaceae]

- Deciduous small tree or large shrub up to 20' tall
- White flowers in spring red berries in fall, not often produced in our area
- Likes rich humus, well drained soil
- Full sun or dappled shade
- Seeds are poisonous if eaten raw
- Seriously threatened
- Takes well to pruning for shape and to prevent plant from becoming leggy
- Birds and wildlife love the berries



Sequoia sempervirens

Coast redwood

Cupressaceae [Taxodiaceae]

- One of the tallest ever greens on earth 75' to 200' tall
- Reddish brown trunk
- Found growing in coastal forests
- Readily regenerating from stumps
- State tree of California



Photo inset by Bob Sikora

Umbellularia californica
California bay laurel
Lauraceae

- Slow growing aromatic tree, reaching heights of 30' to 50'
- Moisture tolerant and does best in rich loamy soil
- Can be used as a windbreak or a centerpiece in a formal garden
- Leaves may be used sparingly to season food
- Host carrier of *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death) so plants may not be brought into counties that do not have an incidence of the disease