

**NWF Sacramento/ Bay Area/ Southern California
Do-not-Buy/ Do-not-Plant List**

Non-Native Plant to Avoid		Notes	Plant Instead	
Common Name	Latin Name		Common Name	Latin Name
Grasses				
Golden Bamboo	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i> <i>Bambusa sp.</i>	CV NC SC Available for sale online and in garden centers, this species quickly spreads by underground rhizomes and escapes cultivation.	California Brome Grass California Melicgrass	<i>Bromus carinatus</i> <i>Melica californica</i> (CV NC)
Green Fountain Grass	<i>Cenchrus setaceus</i> (<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>)	CV NC SC Seeds of this grass are distributed by wind, water, and vehicles, and can establish aggressively in new areas. It can re-establish quickly after burning, spreading along roadways and rangelands, and is shown to create more fuel for fires and lead to greater frequency of fires.	California Fescue	<i>Festuca californica</i> (all)
Mexican Feather Grass	<i>Stipa tenuissima</i> (<i>Nasella tenuissima</i>)	CV NC SC This species is emerging as invasive in California. Although attractive, its numerous tiny seeds are dispersed through many means and consequently, it self-seeds abundantly. In dry areas, it forms dense stands, increasing fire hazard.	Deergrass Alkali Sacaton	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i> (all) <i>Sporobolus airoides</i> (CV SC)
Pampas Grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	CV NC SC This grass has tiny seeds that can be spread great distances by wind. Due to its large size, this species affects wildlife habitat and human use, and additionally creates a fire hazard.	Giant Wildrye Deergrass	<i>Elymus condensatus</i> (NC SC) <i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i> (all)
Herbaceous				
Highway Iceplant	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	NC SC This succulent perennial spreads by stem pieces and fruits eaten by wildlife, forming dense mats that can invade a large variety of habitats. Native plants are outcompeted due to the density that blocks light to other plants and the salt that builds up in the soil.	Prostrate Coyote Bush Wild Strawberry	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i> (all) <i>Fragaria chiloensis</i> (NC)

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Licorice Plant	<i>Helichrysum petiolare</i>	NC This plant displaces native vegetation by growing from wind-spread seeds and branches that root easily to the ground.	California Fuchsia Black Sage	<i>Epilobium canum</i> (all) <i>Salvia mellifera</i> (NC SC)
Herbaceous Aquatic				
Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	CV NC SC This water plant forms dense mats that block the flow of water and is said to be the plant with the world's fastest rate of spread. Seeds are viable for a long period of time creating a formidable seed bank.	California Hedgenettle Scarlet Monkey Flower	<i>Stachys bullata</i> (NC SC) <i>Erythranthe cardinalis</i> (all)
Yellow Water Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	CV NC SC This aquatic species spreads by seed, rhizomes, and rhizome fragments. Seeds float great distances. Native plants in wet habitats are displaced and water structures can become clogged by the iris.	Seep Monkey Flower	<i>Mimulus guttatus</i> (<i>Erythranthe guttata</i>) (all)
Vines				
English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	CV NC SC This vine can kill trees that it climbs and smother vegetation along the ground. Additionally, it can harbor rats and snails that are non-native, helping to disrupt the ecosystem.	Prostrate Coyote Bush Dutchmans Pipe	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i> (all) <i>Aristolochia californica</i> (CV)
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	CV NC SC This herbaceous vine spreads rapidly as its sprawling stems or stem fragments root upon touching the ground. Forming dense mats, this species crowds out native plants and detracts from habitat.	Yerba Buena Sonoma Sage	<i>Clinopodium douglasii</i> (NC SC) <i>Salvia sonomensis</i> (all)
Shrubs				
Acacias and Wattles	<i>Acacia dealbata</i> <i>A. melanoxylon</i>	CV SC This group of shrubs has invaded both wet and dry habitats, forming dense stands. The plants can spread by seed, root, suckers, and stump sprouts.	Golden Currant Coast Barberry	<i>Ribes aureum</i> (NC SC) <i>Berberis pinnata</i> (all)
Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	NC This deciduous shrub easily invades riparian areas and areas that have been	Silver Lupine	<i>Lupinus albifrons</i> (all)

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		disturbed. Although it provides nectar, it is not a source of food for butterflies and moths, so wildlife is impacted when it is planted instead of or when it displaces native host plants.		
Brooms	<i>Genista monosperma</i> <i>G. monspessulana</i> <i>Cytisus striatus</i> <i>C. scoparius</i> <i>Spartium junceum</i>	CV NC SC These shrubs have invaded vast acreage in California, displacing native vegetation and creating a fire hazard. Prolific seeds build up in the soil to help create dense stands of these species.	Flannel Bush Big Saltbush	<i>Fremontodendron californicum</i> (NC SC) <i>Atriplex lentiformis</i> (all)
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster lacteus</i> <i>C. pannosus</i>	NC Seeds of this shrub can be widely distributed by birds. Fast growing with aggressive roots, these shrubs can quickly displace native plants and wildlife.	Hollyleaf Redberry	<i>Rhamnus ilicifolia</i> (all)
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Although attractive, all parts of this plant are highly toxic and can be fatal to humans, pets, and birds if ingested. Contact with the skin causes dermatitis. Oleander attracts pollinators with its flowers and scent, however offers no nectar reward, which wastes the pollinators' energy. Seeds of this plant are spread by wind, making it easy to spread to natural areas.	Nude Buckwheat Eastern Mojave/ Wild Buckwheat California Rose	<i>Eriogonum nudum</i> (CV NC) <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> (NC SC) <i>Rosa californica</i> (all)
Wisterias	<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	CV NC SC This invasive species is relatively new to California and has the potential to spread throughout wet areas. Seeds can be distributed by birds or through waterways.	Shining Willow	<i>Salix lasiandra</i> (all)
Trees				
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	CV This species grows throughout large areas of California and spreads by seeds and root sprouts. The large, dense stands crowd and shade out most other vegetation.	Northern California Black Walnut	<i>Juglans hindsii</i> (all)

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Pepper Trees	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i> <i>S. molle</i>	CV NC SC These trees from dense stands from seeds spread by wildlife and root suckers from existing plants. Foliage is toxic and can cause skin irritation.	Coffeeberry	<i>Frangula californica</i> (all)
Chinese Tallow Tree	<i>Triadica sebifera</i> (<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>)	CV This tree displaces native species throughout a wide range of habitats. The seeds are spread by birds, and trunks can resprout when cut.	Western Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i> (CV)
English Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	CV NC SC This species has invaded the Pacific Northwest and is spreading south into northern California forming dense thickets. Seeds can be dispersed by birds over great distances. It is thought that this species may be able to hybridize with native hawthorns.	Toyon	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> (all)
Eucalyptus/ Blue Gum	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	CV NC SC This tree takes over native plant communities, particularly in coastal areas. This species is highly flammable.	California Laurel	<i>Umbellularia californica</i> (all)
Fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	CV NC SC Spread by birds, deer, and people, this species can crowd out native vegetation in riparian habitats.	White Alder	<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i> (all)
Myoporum/ False Sandalwood	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	CV NC SC Particularly in coastal areas, this species can form dense stands of monoculture. Seeds can be spread by birds, however the vegetation and fruits are toxic to wildlife and livestock.	Toyon	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> (all)
Russian Olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	CV NC SC This tree displaces native species, and is tolerant of a wide range of stressors including salt, drought, and shade. The seeds are widely dispersed by wildlife.	Interior Live Oak	<i>Quercus wislizeni</i> (all)
Saltcedar	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i> <i>T. parviflora</i> <i>T. ramosissima</i>	CV NC SC These have invaded much of California and the SW. They use large amounts of water and concentrate salt in the	Red Willow	<i>Salix laevigata</i> (all)

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		soil, which helps to outcompete other species, and are also a fire hazard.		
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	CV NC SC This tree resprouts to quickly forms thickets with toxins to kill nearby plants. Its roots can damage building and water infrastructure.	Fremont Cottonwood Desert Willow	<i>Populus fremontii</i> (all) <i>Chilopsis linearis</i> (SC)
Palms				
Canary Island Date Palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	only SC Seeds are spread by birds. This palm crowds out native vegetation in wet habitats and can harbor rats and snakes.	Island Ironwood (not a palm)	<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus</i> (SC)
Mexican Fan Palm/ Washington Palm	<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	only SC This palm also crowds out native vegetation in wet habitats and can harbor rats and snakes.	Fan Palm	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i> (SC)

CV = Central Valley (Sacramento) NC = North and Central Coast (Bay Area) SC = South Coast (Southern California)

→ on CA Noxious Weed List (regulated) but seem to still be planted – keep in list

denotes plants that have been specified on landscape plans (or planted) for Taylor Morrison

References:

[The Cal-IPC Inventory](#)

[Invasive Plant Checklist for California Landscaping](#)

Cal-IPC [Don't Plant a Pest! Central Valley](#)

Cal-IPC [Don't Plant a Pest! Bay Area](#)

Cal-IPC [Don't Plant a Pest! Southern California](#)

Plant Right [Invasive Plant List](#)

Plant Right [Invasive Plants and Horticulture in California](#)

Plant Right [Better Choices for California](#)

California Native Plant Society [Preventing the Spread of Invasive Plants & Weeds](#)

[Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States](#)

University of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health [EDDMapS](#)

USDA National Invasive Species Information Center [Terrestrial Plants](#)

California Department of Food and Agriculture [California Noxious Weeds](#)

USDA [Federal Noxious Weed List](#)

(In addition to the plants listed above, species listed as noxious weeds may not be planted in California under any circumstances.)