

Friend or Foe? How Does Your Garden Rate?

Characteristics of a Selection of Common Landscape Plants

Friend Characteristics

Botanical Name	Common Name	Form	Mature Size (height by width)	Low total volume	Form (restricts air flow)	Leaf (low surface to volume)	Little dead Material	High moisture leaves/ stem	Mineral content
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	strawberry tree	Shrub/ Small Tree	X-25' x equal spread			*	*		
<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Madrone-marina hybrid	Shrub/ Small Tree							
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast live oak	Large Tree	30-50' X equal		*	*	*	*	
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	western redbud	Shrub/Small Tree	4-6' x equal spread	*			*	*	
<i>Feijoa sellowana</i>	pineapple guava	Shrub	10-25' x equal spread			*	*		*
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	flowering currant	Shrub	4-12' x equal spread			*	*	*	
<i>Rosa banksiae</i>	Lady Banks rose	Shrub	climbs to 20'	*	*		*	*	
<i>Agapanthus africanus</i>	lily of the nile	Perennial	X' x 2'	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Achillea</i>	yarrow	Perennial	4-5 x 1-2'	*	*		*		
<i>Dietes bicolor</i>	fortnight lily	Perennial	2-4' x equal	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Centaurea cineraria</i>	dusty miller	Perennial	1-2' x equal	*	*		*	*	*
<i>Gazania hybrids</i>	gazania	Groundcover	6 inch x 2'	*	*		*	*	
<i>Passiflora alatacaerulea</i>	passion vine	Vine	climbs to 20-X0'		*	*	*	*	
<i>Rhus integrifolia</i>	lemonade berry	Shrub	4-6' x equal spread			*	*	*	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	oleander	Shrub/Small tree	6-20' X 4-8'	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Fremontodendron californicum</i>	flannel bush	Shrub	6-12' X equal		*	*	*		*
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon	Shrub/Small Tree	6-15' X equal		*	*	*	*	

Foe Characteristics

Botanical Name	Common Name	Form	Mature Size (height by width)	High total volume	Form (optimum air flow)	Leaf (high surface to volume)	Lots of dead Material	Low moisture leaves/ stem	High oil content
<i>Eucalyptus calendulensis</i>	red gum eucalyptus	Tree	60-80'	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo pine	Tree		*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Schinus molle</i>	California pepper tree	Tree	30-50' X 30'	*		*		*	
<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Brazilian pepper tree	Shrub/ Small Tree	15-30' X 15'	*		*			*
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	black acacia	Tree	40' x 20'	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Arctostaphylos manzanita</i>	manzanita	Shrub/ Small Tree	6-20' x 4-10'	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Baccharis pillularis 'Pigeon Point'</i>	dwarf coyote brush	Shrub	X' by 9'	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Dodonaea purpurea</i>	hopseed bush	Shrub	12-15' x same	*	*	*		*	
<i>Juniperus spp</i>	juniper	Shrub/ ground cover	12"-15' x same	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	flax	Evergreen Perennial	9-12' x 10'	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Bambusa aurea</i>	golden bamboo	Giant grass	6-20' runners	*	*	*	*	*	
<i>Pennisetum</i>	fountain grass	Giant grass	X-4' x 4-76	*	*		*	*	
<i>Hedra canariensis</i>	Algerian ivy	Ground cover	runners	*	*		*		
<i>Rosmarinus officianalis</i>	rosemary	Ground cover	2-6' x 4-8'	*	*		*		*