



Plants with a Favorable Fire Performance Rating

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The following list of plants contains those found in the references that were **recommended for use in fire prone environments by at least 3 references**. All of the plants listed here were given either a high or moderate fire resistance rating in the references where a rating was assigned, or found listed in the references that categorized plants as fire resistant without assigning a degree of resistance. In most cases, the terms used in the ranking were not defined, and if they were, there is no agreed upon standard definition. For this reason, the plants are listed in this chapter without any attempt to rank them.


The list is sorted by plant form -- groundcovers, shrubs, trees, etc. Some species may appear twice (e.g. once as a groundcover and then again as a shrub) because they have properties attributed to both forms

It is important to note that a plant's fire performance can be seriously compromised if not maintained. Plants that are not properly irrigated or pruned, or that are planted in climate areas not generally recommended for the plant, will have increased fire risk and will likely make the mature plant undesirable for landscaping in high fire hazard zones.





(Please click on video right arrow to play video)

Table 1. Plants with a favorable fire performance rating in 3 or more references.




Some plants may have invasive (indicated as ) , or other negative characteristics that should be considered before being selected for use in parts of California. For more information please go to <http://www.caleppc.org/> .

<i>Scientific Name</i>	Common Name	Plant Type	Plant Form	References at bottom
<i>Achillea millefolium white</i>	White yarrow	perennial	shrub	25, 40,41, 53
<i>Achillea tomentosa var. Moonshine</i>	Woolly yarrow	perennial	groundcover	7,11,12,13,23,25,26,28,32,35,36,37,39
<i>Aeonium decorum</i>	Aeonium	succulent	shrub	7,10,38,53
<i>Aeonium simsii</i>	Aeonium	succulent	shrub	7,10,53
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	California buckeye	deciduous	tree	11,15,17
<i>Agapanthus 'Peter Pan'</i>	Lily of the Nile, dwarf	evergreen	shrub	9,10,25
<i>Agave americana 'Alba Picata'</i>	Century plant	succulent	shrub	9,25,37
<i>Agave victoriae-reginae</i>	Agave	succulent	shrub	7,10,53
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Carpet bugle	perennial	groundcover	7,9,10,11,17,23,28,35,36,40,41,53
<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	White alder	deciduous	tree	9,11,17,25,53
<i>Aloe arborescens</i>	Torch aloe	succulent	shrub	9,25,53
<i>Aloe aristata</i>	Aloe, Dwarf aloe	succulent	shrub	7,10,40,41,53
<i>Aloe brevifolia</i>	Aloe	succulent	shrub	7,10,40,41,53
<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Madrone	evergreen	tree	11,15,17
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry tree	evergreen	tree	8,9,11,12,17,25,30,40,41,42,53
<i>Arctotheca calendula</i> 	Silver spreader	evergreen	groundcover	7,8,9,10,11,12,18,20,21,23,24,25,26,28,30,31,34,35,36,37,38,40,41,42,53

<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift, Common thrift	evergreen	groundcover	9,10,11,12,15,25,40,41
<i>Artemisia caucasica</i>	Silver spreader	evergreen	shrub	9,10,12,23,28,30,35,36,37,38,42,53
<i>Artemisia pycnocephala</i>	Sandhill sage	evergreen	shrub	6,11,16,25
<i>Asarum caudatum</i>	Wild ginger	perennial	shrub	11,15,40,41
<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	Four-wing saltbush	evergreen	shrub	5,6,16
<i>Atriplex lentiformis breweri</i>	Saltbush	deciduous	shrub	5,11,19
<i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>	Saltbush	evergreen	shrub	7,10,11,13,21,23,24,27,28,35,36,37, 40,41,42
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Weeping bottlebrush	evergreen	tree	26,30,37
<i>Campsis radicans</i>	Trumpet vine, Trumpet creeper	deciduous	vine	12,26,30,32,37
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Ice plant, Hottentot fig, Sea fig	succulent	groundcover	7,9,10,11,23,24,28,31,35,36,37,53
<i>Ceanothus thyrsiflorus</i>	Blueblossom	evergreen	shrub	11,14,15
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red valerian, Jupiter's beard	evergreen	shrub	8,11,25,40,41
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	Snow in summer	evergreen	groundcover	7,10,17,24,30,37,39,40,41,53
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob, St. John's beard	evergreen	tree	5,8,9,11,13,22,34,37,42
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Western redbud	evergreen	tree	8,9,11,12,15,17,25,30,34,40,41,42,53
<i>Cistus purpureus</i>	Orchid rockrose, Purple rockrose	evergreen	shrub	25,30,53
<i>Cistus villosus prostratus (C.salviifolius)</i>	Purple rockrose, Prostrate rockrose	evergreen	groundcover	9,19,22,37
<i>Citrus spp.</i>	Citrus	evergreen	tree	8,12,30,34,40,41
<i>Convolvulus cneorum</i>	Bush morning glory	evergreen	shrub	8,9,11,12,30,32,39,40,41,42,53
<i>Coprosma kirkii</i>	Creeping coprosma	evergreen	groundcover	8,11,12,18,30,40,41,53
<i>Cotoneaster congestus</i>	Likiano	evergreen	shrub	40,41,53
<i>Cotoneaster dammerii</i>	Bearberry cotoneaster	evergreen	groundcover	9,25,40,41
<i>Crassula argentea</i>	Jade plant	succulent	groundcover	9,25,33
<i>Crassula lactea</i>	Crassula	succulent	groundcover	7,9,10,25,36,53
<i>Crassula multiclava</i>	Crassula	succulent	groundcover	7,9,10,25,36,38
<i>Crassula tetragona</i>	Crassula	succulent	groundcover	7,10,36,53
<i>Delosperma alba</i>	White trailing ice plant	succulent	groundcover	7,9,10,11,18,22,23,24,26,28,35,36, 37,39,40,41,42,53
<i>Dietes bicolor</i>	Wild yellow iris, African iris	evergreen	shrub	9,25,40,41
<i>Dietes vejeta</i>	Fortnight lily	evergreen	shrub	9,11,12,25,40,41
<i>Diplacus longifolius (Mimulus sp.)</i>	Monkey flower	perennial	shrub	11,15,17,25,40,41,42,53
<i>Drosanthemum floribundum rosea</i>	Ice plant, Rosea ice plant	perennial	groundcover	8,9,10,11,23,25,26,31,35,36,40,41, 42,53
<i>Drosanthemum hispidum</i>	Rosea ice plant	perennial	groundcover	7,9,10,18,23,24,25,28,36,39,40,41,53
<i>Drosanthemum speciosum</i>	Drosanthemum, Dew flower	perennial	groundcover	7,38,53
<i>Duchesnea indica</i>	Mock strawberry	perennial	groundcover	8,9,11,12,25,40,41
<i>Dymondia margaretae</i>	Dymondia	evergreen	groundcover	8,9,25
<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	Santa Barbara daisy, Fleabane	perennial	groundcover	9,12,17,25,40,41
<i>Eriodictyon trichocalyx</i>	Yerba santa, Hairy yerba santa		shrub	5,13,19
<i>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</i>	Golden yarrow	perennial	shrub	40,41,53
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California poppy	perennial	groundcover	8,9,11,12,25,42,53
<i>Eunymous fortunei</i>	Winter creeper, Common winter	evergreen	shrub	7,10,30,41

<i>radicans</i>	creeper			
<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	Pineapple guava	evergreen	tree	89,11,12,17,25,30,40, 41,42,53
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Creeping red fescue	perennial	groundcover	8,9,11,12,15,25,40,41
<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i>	Wild strawberry, Sand strawberry, ornamental	evergreen	groundcover	7,8,9,10,11,23,25,28,35,36,39,40, 41,53
<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>	Ash	deciduous	tree	18,34,40,41
<i>Fremontodendron spp.</i>	Fremontia, Flannel bush	evergreen	shrub	11,15,17
<i>Galvezia speciosa</i>	Showy Island snapdragon, Hummingbird flower	evergreen	shrub	8,11,12,15,25,30,53
<i>Gazania ringens leucolaena (G. uniflora)</i>	Trailing ganzania	perennial	groundcover	7,10,11,12,23,24,25,27,28,35,36,37, 38,39,40,41,42,53
 <i>Gazania uniflora (G. ringens leucolaena)</i>	Trailing ganzania	perennial	groundcover	7,10,11,12,23,24,25,27,28,35,36,37, 38,39,40,41,42,53
<i>Grindelia stricta</i>	Gum plant, Coastal wild gum	perennial	groundcover	40,41,53
<i>Grindelia stricta venulosa</i>	Coastal wild gum	perennial	shrub	25,40,41
 <i>Helichrysum petiolatum</i>	Licorice plant, Curry plant	perennial	shrub	8,11,17,25,40,41
<i>Hemerocallis spp.</i>	Daylily	deciduous or evergreen	shrub	8,9,11,12,14,25,40,41
<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i>	Red yucca	evergreen	shrub	9,25,40,41
<i>Heuchera maxima</i>	Island alum root, Coral bells	perennial	groundcover	8,12,15,25,40,41
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	Evergreen candytuft, Edging evergreen candytuft	evergreen	groundcover	40,41,53
<i>Iris douglasiana</i>	Pacific coast iris, Douglas iris	bulb	shrub	11,15,17,40,41
<i>Isomeris arborea (Cleome isomeris)</i>	Bladderpod, Bladderbush, Burrofat	evergreen	shrub	6,16,53
<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i>	Red hot poker	perennial	shrub	8,9,11,12,17,25,40,41
<i>Lampranthus aurantiacus</i>	Trailing ice plant, bush gold, bush ice plant	succulent	groundcover	7,9,10,22,25,39,53
<i>Lampranthus filicaulis</i>	Redondo creeper	succulent	groundcover	7,10,22,53
<i>Lampranthus spectabilis</i>	Trailing ice plant	succulent	groundcover	7,9,10,11,22,24,25,38,42,53
<i>Lantana camara & cultivars</i>	Trailing lantana, Yellow sage	evergreen or annual	groundcover	9,23,28,35,36,53
 <i>Ligustrum texanum</i>	Texas privet	evergreen	shrub	11,30,40,41
<i>Limonium perezii</i>	Statice, Marsh rosemary, Sea lavender	perennial	shrub	8,9,11,12,14,25,30,40,41,53
<i>Lippia canescens</i>	Carpet grass, Lippia	perennial	groundcover	7,41,42
<i>Liriope gigantea</i>	Giant turf lily	perennial	groundcover	8,25,40,41
<i>Lonicera japonica 'Halliana'</i>	Hall's honeysuckle	evergreen	groundcover	7,10,53
<i>Macadamia hybrids</i>	Macadamia nut, Queensland nut	evergreen	tree	9,11,25,40,41
<i>Mahonia repens</i>	Creeping mahonia	evergreen	shrub	8,11,40,41
 <i>Malephora crocea</i>	Ice plant, Croceum ice plant	succulent	groundcover	7,8,9,10,11,22,23,24,26,28,31,35, 36,40,41,42,53
<i>Malephora luteola</i>	Yellow trailing ice plant	succulent	groundcover	7,10,22,24,40,41,53
<i>Metrosideros excelsus</i>	New Zealand Christmas	evergreen	tree	11,12,18,30,40,41,42,53

	tree, Pohutukawa				
<i>Mimulus longiflorus</i> (<i>Diplacus longiflorus</i>)	Monkey flower	perennial	shrub		11,17,15,25,40,41,42,53
<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i> <i>prostrata</i>	Creeping boobyalla, Myoporum Wax myrtle, Pacific wax myrtle,	evergreen	groundcover		8, 9,10,11,12,21,23,24,25,28,35,36,38,39,40,41,42,53
<i>Myrica californica</i>	California wax myrtle	evergreen	shrub		11,15,17
<i>Nerine masonorum</i>	Nerine	bulb	shrub		8,9,11,25
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	evergreen	shrub		5,12,13,17,11,26,27,30,32,33,42,40,41
<i>Oenothera berlandieri</i>	Mexican evening primrose	perennial	groundcover		8,11,25,40,41
<i>Osteospermum fruticosum</i>	Trailing South African daisy, Freeway daisy	perennial	groundcover		1,5,6,7,9,10,11,13,16,22,23,24,28,30,34,36,38,39,40,41,42
<i>Pelargonium peltatum</i>	Ivy geranium	perennial	groundcover		7,9,10,11,12,23,24,25,28,36,38,40,41,53
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i> Lippia	Lippia	perennial	groundcover		8,9,10,11,12,23,28,35,36,40,21,41
<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	Dwarf karo	evergreen	shrub		25,40,41
<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	Mock orange, Wheeler's mock orange	evergreen	shrub		11,12,25,40,41
<i>Populus spp.</i>	Aspen, Cottonwood, Poplar	deciduous	tree		11,15,18
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Quaking aspen	deciduous	tree		9,11,15
<i>Portulacaria afra</i>	Purslane tree, Elephant's food	succulent	groundcover		7,9,10,24,40,41,53
<i>Potentilla tabernaemontanii</i> (<i>P. verna</i>)	Spring cinquefoil	evergreen	groundcover		7,10,37,40,41,53
<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>	Holly-leaved cherry	evergreen	shrub		8,11,12,15,26,30
<i>Prunus lyonii</i>	Catalina cherry	evergreen	shrub		5,8,9,11,12,13,25,37,40,41,53
<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Plum, Peach, Cherry, Apricot, Evergreen cherry	evergreen	tree		11,15,42
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate	deciduous	shrub		11,30,40,41,42,53
<i>Punica granatum 'Nana'</i>	Dwarf pomegranate	deciduous	shrub		9,8,11,12,25
<i>Pyracantha 'Santa Cruz'</i>	Pyracantha, Firethorn	evergreen	shrub		8,11,12,25,40,41
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Encina, Coast live oak, California live oak	evergreen	tree		8,9,11,15,17,25,30,31,33,53
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Italian buckthorn	evergreen	shrub		5,9,11,12,13,22,30,32,40,41,42,53
<i>Rhamnus californica</i>	Coffeeberry	evergreen	shrub		9,11,12,15,17,25,26,30,53
<i>Rhamnus crocea</i>	Spiny redberry, Redberry, Hollyleaf redberry, Red-berried buckthorn	evergreen	shrub		11,25,53
<i>Rhododendron occidentale</i>	Western azalea	evergreen	shrub		17,40,41
<i>Rhus integrifolia</i>	Lemonade berry	evergreen	shrub		8,9,12,13,14,15,22,26,37,40,41,53
<i>Rhus lancea</i>	African sumac	evergreen	tree		8,11,12,26,37,40,41
<i>Ribes viburnifolium</i>	Evergreen currant, Catalina perfume	evergreen	shrub		8,9,11,15,17,25,30,53
<i>Salvia sonomensis</i>	Sonoma sage, Creeping sage	perennial	shrub		7,9,10,11,15,16,21,25,27,38,40,41,42,53
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Santolina, Lavender, Gray lavender	evergreen	shrub		7,9,10,17,23,24,25,32,36,37,40,41,42,53

<i>Scaevola 'Muave Clusters'</i>	Fan flower	perennial	groundcover	8,9,11,12,25
<i>Schinus molle</i> 	Peruvian pepper tree, California pepper tree	evergreen	tree	5,9,11,13,17,22,25,30,37,40,41,53
<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i> 	Brazilian pepper tree	evergreen	tree	5,9,11,12,22,40,41,42,53
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Goldmoss sedum	succulent	creeper	7,10,53
<i>Sedum album</i>	Green stonecrop	succulent	creeper	7,10,53
<i>Sedum brevifolium</i>	Stonecrop	succulent	groundcover	7,9,24,25
<i>Sedum confusum</i>	Stonecrop, Sedum	succulent	groundcover	7,10,24,40,41,53
<i>Sedum rubrotinctum (S. guatemalense)</i>	Brown bean, Pork and beans	succulent	groundcover	7,10,24,38,40,41,53
<i>Sedum spathulifolium</i>	Stonecrop	succulent	groundcover	11,15,25
<i>Senecio mandraliscae</i>	Blue ice plant	succulent	shrub	9,10,25
<i>Senecio serpens (Kleinia repens)</i>	Senecio, Dusty miller, Blue-chalksticks	succulent	shrub	7,24,40,41,53
<i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>	Pignut, Jojoba, Goatnut	evergreen	shrub	9,11,15,40,41,42,53
<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	Yellow-eyed grass, Blue-eyed grass	perennial	grass	11,15,40,41,53
<i>Sisyrinchium californicum</i>	Yellow-eyed grass	perennial	grass	15,25,41
<i>Solanum jasminoides</i>	Potato vine	evergreen or deciduous	vine	8,9,12,17,26,30,37,40,41
<i>Solanum xanti</i>	Purple nightshade	evergreen	shrub	17,40,41
<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>	Bird of paradise	perennial	shrub	27,40,41
<i>Symphoricarpos mollis</i>	Waxberry, Creeping snowberry, Trip vine	deciduous	groundcover	11,15,40,41
<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	Cape honeysuckle	evergreen	vine	8,11,26,37,40,41,42,53
<i>Thymus praecox articus</i>	Mother of thyme, Creeping thyme	perennial	shrub	9,10,23,36,40,41
<i>Thymus pseudolanuginosus (T. lanuginosus)</i>	Woolly thyme, Thyme	perennial	groundcover	7,10,23,28,35,36
<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Star jasmine	evergreen	groundcover	9,11,12,17,25,40,41,53
<i>Trichostema lanatum</i>	Woolly blue curls, Romero	perennial	shrub	8,11,12,15,25,26,42,53
<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>	O'Connor's legume	perennial	groundcover	40,41,53
<i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>	Society garlic	perennial	shrub	8,9,25,40,41
<i>Vinca major</i> 	Periwinkle	perennial	groundcover	7,9,10,11,20,23,24,30,34,36,38,39,53
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Dwarf periwinkle myrtle, Dwarf running myrtle	perennial	groundcover	7,10,11,23,24,28,30,36,38,39,53
<i>Zauschneria californica</i>	California fuschia, Hummingbird flower	perennial	shrub	9,11,17,40,41,53