



Plant List for a Bird-Friendly Garden in Orange County, CA

These plants are mostly Orange County natives that benefit birds, are drought-tolerant (summer water once a month) and can live in full sun and clay soil. Go to Calscape.org for photographs and gardening information about these and additional California native plants.



		Height	Width	Flower	Flower Season	Comment	Birds
Plants 5 ft +	Ceanothus spinosus – Greenbark Ceanothus	6-8'	8'	blue	winter, spring	Rare species	seed-eater
	Cercis occidentalis – Western Redbud	10-20'	10-15'	pink	spr, sum	Winter deciduous	seed-eater
	Heteromeles arbutifolia - Toyon	6-30'	10-15'	white	summer	Red berries fall-winter	fruit-eater
	Sambucus nigra (formerly S. mexicana) – Western Elderberry	6-24'	6-24'	yellow	spring	Winter deciduous	fruit-eater
Plants between 3 ft -5 ft	Encelia californica - California Bush Sunflower	2-5'	3-7'	yellow	winter, spring	Summer semi-deciduous	seed-eater
	Erigonum fasciculatum – California Buckwheat	3-4'	4'	white	summer	Flowers dry to rust color	seed-eater
	Frangula (formerly Rhamnus) californica – Coffeeberry	8'	10'	white	spr, sum	May be pruned	fruit-eater
	Gambelia (Galvezia) speciosa – Island Bush Snapdragon	3'	5'	red	spr, sum, fall	From Channel islands	nectar-eater
	Malacothamnus clementinus-San Clemente Isl. Bush Mallow	4-5'	8'	pink	spring	From Channel islands	insect-eater
	Peritoma arborea (formerly Cleome isomeris) – Bladderpod	3-5'	5'	yellow	year-round	Fragrant	nectar-eater
	Rhus integrifolia – Lemonade Berry/Sumac	3-30'	3-20'	pink	wint, spr, sum	Great wildlife plant	fruit-eater
	Salvia apiana – White Sage	3-5'	5'	white	spr, sum	Fragrant	seed-eater
	Salvia clevelandii – Cleveland Sage	5'	3'	purple	spr, sum	Fragrant	seed-eater
	Salvia mellifera – Black Sage	3-5'	6'	white	spr, sum	Fragrant	seed-eater
Sphaeralcea ambigua – Apricot (Desert) Mallow	3'	4'	orange	winter, spring	From Calif. deserts	insect-eater	
Plants less than 3 ft tall	Dudleya lanceolata – Lanceleaf Live-forever	1'	1'	white	spr, sum	Summer semi-deciduous	nectar-eater
	Epilobium canum – California Fuchsia	2'	4'	red	summer, fall	Winter semi-deciduous	nectar-eater
	Mimulus aurantiacus – Sticky Monkeyflower	2'	3'	orange	spring	Summer semi-deciduous	nectar-eater
	Oenothera elata ssp. hookeri – Hooker’s Evening Primrose	5'	5'	yellow	summer, fall	Winter deciduous	seed-eater
	Penstemon centranthifolius – Scarlet Bugler	2'	1'	red	spring	Summer deciduous	nectar-eater
	Penstemon spectabilis – Showy Penstemon	2-3'	3'	purple	spr, sum	Fast-growing	nectar-eater
	Salvia spathacea – Hummingbird Sage	2'	spread	purple	spr, sum	Best under shade	nectar-eater
	Stipa pulchra – Purple Needlegrass	2'	2'	purple	spring	Official state grass	seed-eater