



Aromatic Plants

Compiled by The Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants, Inc.
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KEYS TO FLOWER COLOR:	B	blue	R	red
	G	green	V	violet/purple
	O	orange	W	white
	P	pink	Y	yellow

SHRUBS AND PERENNIALS

- *Achillea millefolium*, Yarrow P/R/W – fresh herby scent; good among paving stones
- *Artemisia californica*, Coastal Sagebrush *A. douglasiana*, Mugwort and *A. ludoviciana* Silver Wormwood – sagey, musky
- *Baccharis* spp., Coyote Brush W – rich citrusy smell when planted en masse
- *Encelia californica*, California Bush Sunflower and *E. farinosa*, Brittlebush Y – “green” smell
- *Lepechinia* spp., Pitcher Sage P/W – sweet, minty with a touch of sage
- *Mentha arvensis*, Field Mint W/V
- *Monardella* spp., Coyote Mint V/W – deliciously minty
- *Rhus* spp., Sumac P/W – lemon or apple scent
- *Ribes viburnifolium*, Catalina Currant P/W – crushed leaves have rich sweet smell
- *Salvia* spp., Sages B/P/R/V/W – Black and White Sages are more pungent, bitter; Cleveland Sage has touch of honey
- *Satureja* spp., Savory O/W –minty
- *Stachys albens*, Woolly White Hedge-Nettle V/W – pungently minty, with a touch of bitterness



TREES

- *Calocedrus decurrens*, Incense Cedar – at its most fragrant on warm days
- *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*, Lawson's Cypress
- *Cupressus* spp., Cypresses – rich intense piney smell
- *Lyonothamnus floribundus asplenifolius*, Catalina Ironwood W – like piña colada
- *Pinus* spp., Pines – bark has distinctive vanilla scent, especially Ponderosa and Jeffrey Pines
- *Thuja plicata* and *Thuja plicata* ‘Emerald Cone’, Canoe Cedar

PLANTS WITH FRAGRANT FLOWERS:

- *Acacia greggii*, Catclaw Y
- *Calycanthus occidentalis*, Spice Bush R – like an “old wine barrel”
- *Carpenteria californica*, Bush Anemone W –sweet , light
- *Ceanothus* spp., California Lilac B – very sweet
- *Chilopsis linearis*, Desert Willow W/P
- *Datura meteloides*, Sacred Datura W – night-bloomer
- *Hyptis emoryi*, Desert Lavender V – reminiscent of Mediterranean Lavender
- *Keckiella antirrhinoides*, Yellow Bush Penstemon Y – addictively rich, sweet smell; carries on the breeze
- *Mahonia repens*, Creeping Barberry Y – delicate mild scent
- *Oenothera* spp., Evening Primrose W/Y – night-bloomer
- *Penstemon palmeri*, Palmer's Penstemon P – sweetly fragrant
- *Philadelphus lewisii*, Mock Orange W – sweet citrusy odor
- *Rhododendron occidentale*, Western Rhododendron W – extremely fragrant, sweet
- *Romneya coulteri*, Matilija Poppy W/Y – light aroma
- *Rosa* spp. Wild Rose P
- *Trichostema lanatum*, Woolly Blue Curls B/V – delicious, like grape candy
- *Verbena lilacina*, Lilac Verbena V – strongest when petals first open; fresh flowers can scent a room
- *Yucca whipplei*, Our Lord's Candle W