

A Guide to Plant Names

Plant identification labels provide information about our plants and document our collections. Each labeled plant is cataloged in a database, that also includes information about its acquisition, history and characteristics.

Scientific names are unique to each plant, whereas common names often vary from region to region. Scientific names generally are Latin and based on a binomial (meaning two names) system established in 1753.

Scientific name Common Name

Scientific Family Name

Common Family Name

Native Range/Location

- indicates descriptive information for this specific accession
- * indicates wild collected and wild location
- † wild collection information for this specific accession

Special Designation Icons



Hummingbird Attracting



Butterfly Attracting



Used by Humans



Bee Attracting



Rare and Endangered in Native Range



Explore. Learn. Be Inspired.

Plants from Around the World

The Arboretum showcases plants from some of the most important concentrations of biodiversity on our planet. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and California are all home to biodiversity hotspots—the most biologically rich and critically endangered ecosystems in the world. The Arboretum collects plants from these regions to study, display and protect from possible extinction.

Our gardens also include an extensive collection of world succulents and an Aroma Garden, where you can take in nature's sweetest scents. North of the central gardens are plantings of particular importance including a broad collection of rare conifers and research gardens used for the study and conservation of California's native flora.

Conservation of California Natives

To the northwest of the Arboretum's central gardens are 55 acres dedicated to growing, studying, and preserving California's native plants. The California Conservation Gardens contain specimens of many rare and endangered plants from the Central Coast, and beyond, including a very large collection of magnificent manzanitas. The Arboretum's Native Plant Program is also a research and teaching program and conducts seed banking and restoration projects statewide.

Community Gem

The Arboretum is more than a world-renowned collection of plants. It is also a hub for activities and information related to plants and the environment. Be sure to visit our website to learn about tours, special events, lectures and workshops—all open to the public.

Did You Know?

We are 100% dependent on your admission fees, donations, and purchases at our gift shop to survive. While maintaining this unique treasure, we are also responsible for raising funds for our daily operations and staff salaries. Please help us survive and thrive by making a donation, paying admission, and becoming a member.

Help the Gardens Grow

Join Us ◆ Members of the Friends of the UC Santa Cruz Arboretum receive free admission to the Arboretum and other reciprocal gardens; discounts at our gift shop, local nurseries, and Arboretum events; early admission to our wildly popular Spring and Fall Plant Sales, and more!

Lend a Hand ◆ Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Arboretum community. Each year, hundreds help in the gardens, lead tours, staff the gift shop, create art for sale, volunteer at events and on committees, and propagate plants for our biannual sales.

Shop at Norrie's ◆ Norrie's Gift Shop is also our Admissions Office, providing visitor information and selling garden accessories, nature-related gifts and toys, and plants. All proceeds support the Arboretum.

Rent Facilities ◆ The Arboretum is a wonderful place for a party or wedding. Host your next event in the gardens. Our meeting hall is also available to rent.

For more information, visit us on the web at: **arboretum.ucsc.edu**







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Visitor Guide & Map

Welcome,

The UC Santa Cruz Arboretum is a conservation garden of rare, endangered and extraordinary plants from around the world. These vast collections are an outdoor classroom, a resource for scientific study and a destination for gardeners, artists and nature lovers of all ages.

The Arboretum was founded in 1964 as part of the early development of the University of California, Santa Cruz. Today, we are strongly rooted on 135 acres overlooking the Monterey Bay. This exceptional site provides a unique combination of micro-climates, soil types and topography, making the Arboretum a premier location for growing and sustaining a wide variety of plants, many of which are threatened in their native habitats.

We invite you to stroll through the gardens, enjoy a picnic lunch and wonder at the remarkable diversity of the world's flora.