

















Vasco Caves Wildflowers

A photographic guide to showy wildflowers of Vasco Caves Regional Preserve

Sorted by Flower Color

Photographs by Wilde Legard Botanist, East Bay Regional Park District Revision: February 23, 2007



More than 2,000 species of native and naturalized plants grow wild in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most are very difficult to identify without the help of good illustrations. This is designed to be a simple, color photo guide to help you identify some of these plants.

The selection of showy wildflowers displayed in this guide is by no means complete. The intent is to expand the quality and quantity of photos over time. The revision date is shown on the cover and on the header of each photo page. A comprehensive plant list for this area (including the many species not found in this publication) can be downloaded at the East Bay Regional Park District's wild plant download page at: http://www.ebparks.org.

This guide is published electronically in Adobe Acrobat® format to accommodate these planned updates. You have permission to freely download and distribute, and print this pdf for individual use. You are not allowed to sell the electronic or printed versions.

In this version of the guide, only showy wildflowers are included. These wildflowers are sorted first by flower color, then by plant family (similar flower types), and finally by scientific name within each family. Under each photograph are four lines of information, based on the current standard wild plant reference for California: *The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California*, 1993.

Common Name These non-standard names are based on *Jepson* and other local references.

Scientific Name
Scientific names revised since 1993 are NOT included in this edition.
Origin & Longevity
Native or Introduced. Annual, Biennial, Perennial, or a combination.

Family Name The common plant family name according to *Jepson*.

For readers that prefer a more comprehensive guide, sorted by scientific name, please download the "wild plants" version of this guide.

Readers are encouraged to email any suggestions or corrections to wlegard@ebparks.org.

All photographs are © 2006 Wilde Legard, all rights reserved.



Seaside Heliotrope

Heliotropium curassavicum

Native Perennial

Borage Family



Valley Popcorn Flower Plagiobothrys canescens Native Annual Borage Family



California Buckeye Aesculus californica Native Perennial Buckeye Family



Common / California Manroot *Marah fabaceus* Native Perennial Gourd Family



Blue Elderberry
Sambucus mexicana
Native Perennial
Honeysuckle Family



Common Soap Plant

Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. pomeridianum

Native Perennial

Lily Family



Common Horehound Marrubium vulgare Introduced Perennial Mint Family



Black Sage Salvia mellifera Native Perennial Mint Family



White Water Cress
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum
Native Perennial
Mustard Family



Small-flower Nightshade Solanum americanum Native Annual-Perennial Nightshade Family



Bicolor Linanthus Linanthus bicolor Native Annual Phlox Family



Mouse-ear Chickweed Cerastium glomeratum Introduced Annual Pink Family



Windmill Pink
Silene gallica
Introduced Annual
Pink Family



Common Chickweed

Stellaria media
Introduced Annual
Pink Family



California Dwarf Plantain

Plantago erecta

Native Annual

Plantain Family



Common Miner's Lettuce Claytonia perfoliata ssp. perfoliata Native Annual Purslane Family



Woodland Star Lithophragma affine Native Perennial Saxifrage Family



California Saxifrage Saxifraga californica Native Perennial Saxifrage Family



Snapdragon Family



Yarrow Achillea millefolium Native Perennial Sunflower Family



Blow Wives Achyrachaena mollis Native Annual Sunflower Family



California Everlasting Gnaphalium californicum Native Biennial Sunflower Family



White Fiesta Flower Pholistoma membranaceum Native Annual Waterleaf Family



Common Fiddleneck

Amsinckia menziesii var. intermedia

Native Annual

Borage Family



Sweet Fennel
Foeniculum vulgare
Introduced Perennial
Carrot Family



Erect-pod Winter Cress
Barbarea orthoceras
Native Perennial
Mustard Family



Black Mustard Brassica nigra Introduced Annual Mustard Family



Deerweed

Lotus scoparius var. scoparius

Native Perennial

Pea Family



California Lotus

Lotus wrangelianus

Native Annual

Pea Family



California Bur Clover Medicago polymorpha Introduced Annual Pea Family



Sour Clover
Melilotus indica
Introduced Annual-Biennial
Pea Family



Bush Monkey Flower Mimulus aurantiacus Native Perennial Snapdragon Family



Golden Monkey Flower

Minulus guttatus

Native Perennial

Snapdragon Family



Yellow Johnny-tuck
Triphysaria eriantha ssp. eriantha
Native Annual
Snapdragon Family



Yellow Star Thistle Centaurea solstitialis Introduced Annual Sunflower Family



Pineapple Weed
Chamomilla suaveolens
Introduced Annual
Sunflower Family



Smooth Cat's-ear Hypochaeris glabra Introduced Annual Sunflower Family



Rough Cat's-ear Hypochaeris radicata Introduced Perennial Sunflower Family



Goldfields

Lasthenia californica

Native Annual

Sunflower Family



Bristly Ox-tongue
Picris echioides
Introduced Annual-Biennial
Sunflower Family



Common Groundsel Senecio vulgaris Introduced Annual Sunflower Family



Prickly Sow Thistle Sonchus asper ssp. asper Introduced Annual Sunflower Family



Pale Western Larkspur Delphinium hesperium ssp. pallescens Native Perennial Buttercup Family



Purple Sanicle

Sanicula bipinnatifida

Native Perennial

Carrot Family



Panicled / Weedy Willowherb

Epilobium brachycarpum

Native Annual

Evening Primrose Family



Common Willowherb

Epilobium ciliatum ssp. ciliatum

Native Perennial

Evening Primrose Family



Long-beaked Filaree
Erodium botrys
Introduced Annual
Geranium Family



Red-stem Filaree Erodium cicutarium Introduced Annual Geranium Family



White-stem Filaree Erodium moschatum Introduced Annual Geranium Family



Purpletip Cut-leaf Geranium

Geranium dissectum

Introduced Annual

Geranium Family



Hairy Dove's Foot Geranium Geranium molle Introduced Annual Geranium Family



Pink / Serrated Onion
Allium serra
Native Perennial
Lily Family



Ithuriel's Spear Triteleia laxa Native Perennial Lily Family



Grass Poly Loosestrife
Lythrum hyssopifolium
Introduced Annual-Perennial
Loosestrife Family



Whorled/Narrow-leaf Milkweed

Asclepias fascicularis

Native Perennial

Milkweed Family



Spanish Clover

Lotus purshianus var. purshianus

Native Annual

Pea Family



Blue Bush / Silver Lupine

Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons

Native Perennial

Pea Family



Small-head Clover Trifolium microcephalum Native Annual Pea Family



Tomcat Clover Trifolium willdenovii Native Annual Pea Family



Magenta Red Maids Calandrinia ciliata Native Annual Purslane Family



Bellardia Bellardia trixago Introduced Annual Snapdragon Family



Common Owl's Clover

Castilleja densiflora ssp. densiflora

Native Annual

Snapdragon Family



Purple Owl's Clover Castilleja exserta ssp. exserta Native Annual Snapdragon Family



Italian Thistle
Carduus pycnocephalus
Introduced Annual
Sunflower Family



Bull Thistle Cirsium vulgare Introduced Biennial Sunflower Family



Cardoon / Artichoke Thistle

Cynara cardunculus

Introduced Perennial

Sunflower Family

Page 10 of 12



Milk Thistle Silybum marianum
Introduced Annual-Biennial Sunflower Family



Robust Vervain Verbena lasiostachys var. scabrida Native Perennial Vervain Family



Blue Dicks

Dichelostemma capitatum ssp. capitatum

Native Perennial

Lily Family



Blue Witch

Solanum umbelliferum

Native Perennial

Nightshade Family



Miniature Dove Lupine

Lupinus bicolor

Native Annual

Pea Family



California Fuchsia

Epilobium canum ssp. canum

Native Perennial

Evening Primrose Family



California Poppy Eschscholzia californica Native Perennial Poppy Family



Scarlet Pimpernel Anagallis arvensis Introduced Annual Primrose Family