



Wild Plants of Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve

Common Name Version

A Photographic Guide

Sorted by Form, Color and Family
with Habitat Descriptions and Identification Notes

Photographs and text by Wilde Legard
District Botanist, East Bay Regional Park District

East Bay 
Regional Park District

New Revised and Expanded Edition - Includes the latest
scientific names, habitat descriptions and identification notes

A Photographic Guide to the Wild Plants of Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve

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. This guide is published electronically in Adobe Acrobat® format so that it can easily be updated as additional photographs become available. You have permission to freely download, distribute and print this guide for individual use. Photographs are © 2014 Wilde Legard, all rights reserved.

In this guide, the included plants are sorted first by form (Ferns & Fern-like, Grasses & Grass-like, Herbaceous, Woody), then by most common flower color, and finally by similar looking flowers (grouped by genus within each family). Each photograph has the following information, separated by '-':

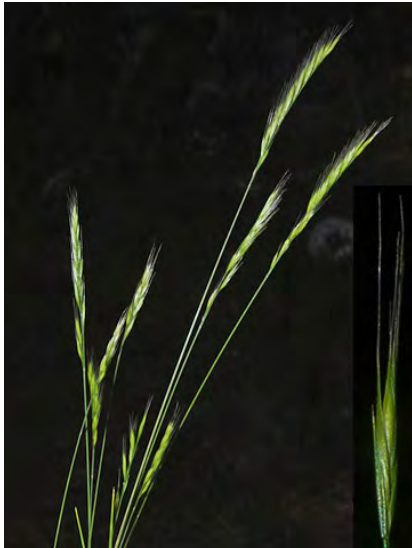
COMMON NAME	According to <i>The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition (JM2)</i> and other references (not standardized).
(Scientific Name)	According to <i>JM2</i> and <i>eFlora</i> (ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html).
Origin & Longevity	Native, Naturalized, or Waif (not reproducing without human care). Annual, Biennial, Perennial, or a combination.
Family Name	Common family name according to <i>JM2</i> ,
(Bloom date range)	Period during the year when the plant blooms, according to <i>JM2</i> and other sources. '-' if plant does not bloom (ie. Ferns).
Habitat	Habitat description according to <i>JM2</i> and other sources.
ID Characteristics	Plant description with identification characteristics and other notes, based on multiple sources including: <i>Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora, Second Edition (2013)</i> , <i>JM2</i> , <i>Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region (Revised Edition)</i> , and <i>Weeds of California and Other Western States</i> .
Additional notes	Occasionally, an additional note may appear (ie. NOXIOUS weed, INVASIVE weed, Fed & Calif. ENDANGERED, etc.).

Revision: 3/2/2014

Grass-like - Green/Brown

Wild Plants of Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve - Sorted by Form, Color and Family

Page 1



BROME FESCUE (*Festuca bromoides*)
Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (May-Jun) - Uncommon. Dry, disturbed places, coastal-sage scrub, chaparral - Stem < 20". Inflor 0.6-6" tall, dense, lower branches erect. Spikelet 0.2-0.4" long, awn 0.1-0.3" long.



GRAND HOUND'S TONGUE (*Cynoglossum grande*) Native Perennial - Borage Family - (Feb-May) - Chaparral, woodland - Stem 1-3'. Leaf stalk 3-6". Leaf blade 3-6" cm long, broadly oval. Flowers bright blue w/inner white teeth.



BLUE DICKS (*Dichelostemma capitatum* subsp. *capitatum*) Native Perennial - Brodiaea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Open woodland, scrub, desert, grassland - Plant 2-28" tall. Flowers blue-purple, not narrowed in the middle. Stamens 6. Early spring bloomer.



REDSTEM FILAREE (*Erodium cicutarium*)
Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Feb-Sep) - Open, disturbed sites, grassland, scrub - Stem 4-20". Leaves compound, leaflets dissected. Sepal tip bristly. Petal pink to purple. Fruit beak 0.8-2". INVASIVE.



CUT-LEAVED GERANIUM (*Geranium dissectum*) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Mar-Jul) - Open, disturbed sites - Stem 3-28" tall, rough-hairy. Leaf blades deeply divided. Petals violet-red, 0.1-0.25" long w/notched tips. Flower stalk sticky. **INVASIVE.**



HAIRY DOVE'S FOOT GERANIUM (*Geranium molle*) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Feb-Aug) - Open to shaded sites, disturbed ground - Stem 4-17" tall. Petals red-purple, 0.1-0.4" long, notched. Sepals awnless. Fruit smooth, wrinkled.



MINIATURE LUPINE (*Lupinus bicolor*) Native Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Abundant. Open or disturbed areas - Plant 4-16", hairy. Flower 0.16-0.4" long, banner longer than wide, upper keel ciliate near tip, pedicel < 0.12". Fruit 0.12-0.24" wide.



ROSE CLOVER (*Trifolium hirtum*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Apr-May) - Disturbed areas, roadsides - Head with 1-2 bract-like leaves immed below. Flowers pink, 0.4-0.6" long, densely-bristly in fruit. **INVASIVE weed.**



SPRING VETCH (*Vicia sativa* subsp. *sativa*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Roadsides, disturbed areas, grassland, open areas in oak and riparian woodlands - Flowers 1-2 at leaf bases, pink-purple to white, 0.7-1.2" long. Leaflets 0.16-0.4" wide.



SPARSELY HAIRY VETCH (*Vicia villosa* subsp. *varia*) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Grassland, roadside, disturbed areas - Stems w/few hairs. Flowers 10-20, blue-purple to white, 0.4-0.55" long. Lower bract lobes 0.04-0.1" long.



CALIFORNIA POPPY (*Eschscholzia californica*) Native Perennial - Poppy Family - (Feb-Sep) - Grassy, open areas - Plant 2-24" tall. Flower w/spreading rim <= 0.2". Petals 0.8-2.4" long, early spring = large and orange, fall = smaller and yellow.



VARIABLE-LEAF NEMOPHILA (*Nemophila heterophylla*) Native Annual - Borage Family - (Feb-Jun) - Common. Forest, chaparral, roadsides, streambanks - Flower 0.1-0.4" long, unspotted, bract appendages < 0.04" long in fruit.



CALIFORNIA MAN-ROOT (*Marah fabacea*) Native Perennial - Gourd Family - (Feb-Apr) - Streamsides, washes, shrubby open areas - Vine 6-20' long. Leaves moderately lobed. Flowers cream or white, < 0.3" wide. Fruit spiny all over.



GOOSE GRASS (*Galium aparine*) Native Annual - Madder Family - (Apr-Jun) - Grassy, ± shady places - Stem 12-35" long, weak, brittle. Leaves 0.5-1.6" long, in whorls of 6-8. Flowers white, 4-lobed. Fruits covered w/short, hooked hairs.



YERBA BUENA (*Clinopodium douglasii*) Native Perennial - Mint Family - (Apr-Sep) - Shady places, chaparral, woodland - Stem trailing, gen woody, forming mats. Leaves 0.4-1.4" long, oval. Petals white to lavender, 3-8 mm long. Aromatic.



COMMON CHICKWEED (*Stellaria media*) Naturalized Annual - Pink Family - (Feb-Sep) - Oak woodland, meadows, disturbed areas - Plant 2.8-20" tall. Stem w/line of hairs on 1 side. Sepals 0.12-0.18" long. Petals white, 2-lobed, 0.7-0.9x sepals.



PACIFIC WOODLAND SANICLE (*Sanicula crassicaulis*) Native Perennial - Carrot Family - (Mar-May) - Open slopes, ravines, woodland - Plants stout, 9-47". Leaves 1-5" across with 3-5 deep, palmate lobes and serrate edges. Flowers yellow.



CALIFORNIA BURCLOVER (*Medicago polymorpha*) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jul) - Common. Chaparral, oak woodland, streambanks, roadsides, disturbed areas - Stem 4-20". Flower yellow, 0.14-0.24" long. Spiny spiral fruits. **INVASIVE.**



YELLOW STAR-THISTLE (*Centaurea solstitialis*) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (May-Oct) - Invasive, roadsides, disturbed grassland or woodland - Plant 4-39" tall. Leaves woolly, extend down the stem. Flower bract spines 0.4-1" long. **NOXIOUS weed.**



COMMON GROUNDSEL (*Senecio vulgaris*) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Feb-Jul) - Common. Disturbed areas - Plant 4-24" tall, not hairy, w/1-10+ stems. Flower head bracts with black-tips. Milky sap.



COAST LIVE OAK (*Quercus agrifolia* var. *agrifolia*) Native Perennial - Oak Family - (Mar-Apr) - Valleys, slopes, mixed-evergreen forest, woodland - Tree 30-80'. Leaves convex, hair-tuft below in vein axils. Acorns on 1st year twigs, shell glabrous inside.



SHREVE OAK (*Quercus parvula* var. *shrevei*) Native Perennial - Oak Family - (Mar-May) - ± Moist woodland - Tree < 56' tall. Leaves 1.2-3.5" long, dull olive-green beneath. Acorn 1.2-1.8" long, oblong below middle and abruptly tapered to tip.

