

Jensen Botanical Garden Plant List

When you are at the garden, you will see metal signs with labels. Each will have a number and the common name of the plant. This list will give you more information.

1. Valley Oak; *Quercus lobata*. Native to the interior valleys and sierra foothills. Deciduous. California's mightiest oak, often reaching 70 feet or more, with equal or greater spread. This was on the property when Mr. Jensen bought it and has been estimated to be over 400 years old.

2. Rose; "Day Dream" Shrub. 18-24 inches high and 24-36 inches wide is normal. JBG ones are well established and very happy, so they exceed the normal size. Medium pink flower with a slight fragrance, multiple flowers on each stem. Blooms repeatedly - prune frequently to encourage new blooms.

3. Japanese Maple, *Acer palatum* "Sangu Kaku" or Senkaki. Vigorous, upright treelike growth. Fall foliage yellow, tinted rose. Twigs, branches striking coral red.

4. Flowering Maple, *Abutilon*. Evergreen vine shrubs. Part shade. Grown daily for bell shaped flowers. Bloom April-June, but some bloom year round. Available in white, yellow, pink, and red. Attracts bees and hummingbirds.

5. Sage, *Salvia microphylla*. Blooms all through the hottest summers, attracting hummingbirds and butterflies. Drought tolerant once established. Plant in full sun, grows quickly to 3 foot by 3 foot.

6. Interior live oak; *Quercus wislizenii*. Native to the Sierra foothills and east side of California's central valley. Evergreen. Grows 30 - 75 feet high; often broader than high. Oblong, glossy green leaves to 4 inches long, smooth or spiny edged. Handsome tree for parks and big lawns.

7. Pin Oak, *Quercus palustris*. Native to eastern U.S. Deciduous. Moderate to rapid grown to 50 - 80 feet tall. Alexander and pyramidal when young, open and round at maturity. Glossy dark green leaves are deeply cut into lobes, in brisk fall weather leaves turn yellow, red, and finally russet brown. Much dead foliage hangs on in winter. Less drought tolerant than most oaks.

8. Chinese Fringe Flower, *Ioropetalum chinense*; Evergreen shrub. Generally 3 - 5 feet tall; possibly up to 12 feet. Neat, compact habit, with tiered, arching or drooping branches. Leaves round light green, occasionally turns yellow or red through the year for nice touch of color. Flowers white to pink in clusters of 4-8 at end of branches. Partial shade in the valley. Needs right, well-drained soil and water.

9. Taiwan Cherry, *Prunus campanulata*. Slender small tree. Bell shaped flowers, drooping in clusters of 2-5. Electric rose color. Blooms in the spring. Full sun and fast-draining soil. Somewhat drought tolerant.

10. Weeping Redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens pendula*. Evergreen tree. California native. Tallest of the world's trees. Expect 70-90 feet tall, but can go 350 feet. Branch spread at base of 14-30 feet. This variety's branches droop down, giving the name Weeping. Wants lots of water in the hot summer of the valley.

11. Juniper, Cupressaceae. Evergreen shrubs and trees. These were donated, so the exact type is not known. In general, Junipers are coniferous plants with fleshy, berry like cones. Foliage is needlelike. Tough and drought resistant.

12. Camellias, *Camellia japonica*. Various hybrid brought by Mr. Jensen to the garden back in 1958. They are tree sized now.

13. Scarlet Oak, *Quercus coccinea*. Deciduous. Native to eastern U.S. Moderate to rapid growth in deep, rich soil. 60-80 feet tall. High, light, open branching habit. Leaves bright green, turning bright scarlet in colder autumn nights. Less color where autumn is warm. Good street or lawn tree. Fine to garden under.

14. Chinese Pistache, Anacardiaceae. *Pistachio chinensis*, "Keith Davey". Deciduous. Moderate growth to 60 feet tall, 50 feet wide. This is an all male tree, so no berries. Orange to red foliage in the fall. Not fussy about water - can take lawn eating, or no summer watering at all in deep soil.

15. Eastern Redbud, *Cercis leguminosae*. *Cercis canadensis*, Colorado Redbud. Deciduous. Native to the eastern U.S. Fast growing to 25 feet tall, 20 feet wide. Rich green heart shaped leaves. Reddish purple bud opening to an extremely showy pink in the spring on bare branches. Redbuds can grow nicely in lightly shaded areas, but are typically a full sun tree.

16. Dogwood, Cornaceae. *Cornus florida*, "Cloud 9". Deciduous. Native to eastern U.S. To 15 feet high, 10 feet wide. Performs best in high shade. White flowers almost cover the tree in April, before leaves expand. "Cloud 9" blooms young and heavily. Tolerates California heat and lack of winter chill better than over

varieties. Reddish-purple leaves in the fall and glossy red berries that persist into winter.

18. Black Mondo Grass, *Ophiopogon planiscapus* "Nigrescens". Evergreen grasslike perennials. Tuft 8 inches high and about 12 inches wide. Leaves to 10 inches long, new leaves green but soon turn black. White flowers in loose spikelike clusters in summer. Needs shade and water in the Sacramento area.

19. Chinese Ground Orchids, *Bletilla striata*. Native to China. Hardy garden orchid. Lavender, cattleya-like 1-2 inch flowers, up to a dozen on 1.5-2 foot stem, produced for about 6 weeks beginning in May or June. Plant tuber like roots in the fall.

20. Yellow Archangel, *Lamium galeobdolon*. Herbaceous perennial plant used as a low-growing ornamental. Leaves are triangular, variegated with silver markings. The soft yellow flowers are borne in leafy inflorescences called verticillasters for a few weeks in mid-spring. A few flowers may show later. Yellow archangel is easily grown in most conditions from part sun to full shade in many types of soil. Although it prefers moist soil and growth will be more dense under those conditions, it tolerates drought and dry sites. The flowers are pollinated by bees - especially bumblebees.

21. Cashmere Bouquet, *Clerodendrum bungei*. Deciduous shrub. Spreads aggressively by sending up suckers all around itself. The upright, minimally branched, shoots can get 6 foot tall and they have opposite, oval shaped leaves, to 12 inches long, with long petioles and coarse marginal teeth. The leaves have a strong musky, but not unpleasant, smell. The rose colored flowers are in rounded clusters 8 inches across and carried above the leaves. Individual flowers are funnel shaped with five spreading petal-like lobes. The flowers are very fragrant and last from summer until

first frost. Attracts hummingbirds. In winter, the upright stems, mostly devoid of branches, are not very attractive and may appear to be dead.

22. Coast Redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*. Evergreen tree. Native of California. One of the worlds tallest trees, it an grow 3-5 feet a year. Plant in full sun or part shade, with lots of water. Good tree for near a lawn, but will defeat the lawn as it grows and shades the lawn.

23. Oak Leaf Hydrangea, *Hydrangea quercifolia*. Deciduous shrub. Broad, rounded shrub to 6 feet. With handsome deeply lobed 8 inch leaves that turn bronze or crimson in the fall. Creamy white flowers in open cluster in June.

24. Cherry Laurel, *Prunus laurocerasus*. Evergreen tree or shrub. 10-18 feet tall, 8-11 feet wide. White flowers in the spring. The leaves are poisonous if eaten - not to be confused with the leaves of an English Laurel used in cooking as a bay leaf. Plant in sun or part shade. Fast growing, so prune heavily. Some consider this one a weed.

25. Dawn Redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*. Only redwood that is deciduous. This is an impressive tree by any standard. Of special note is that fossils in northern parts of the United States show that the dawn redwood knew the dinosaurs. It was long thought to be extinct - until it was discovered alive and well in a rural, mountainous area of China in 1944. Mr. Jensen got seeds after it was discovered and planted the largest one in the garden. Others have grown from falling seeds. The tree will grow to 70-100 feet (up to 2 feet a year) and 25 feet wide. It likes full sun, but will do fine in part shade. Can handle most soils and is somewhat drought tolerant.

26. Himalayan Maiden Hair Fern, *Adiantum venustum*. Evergreen fern. Stems thin, wiry, and dark, fronds finely cut, the leaflets mostly fan shaped, bright green, thin textured. Needs shade and water. Spreads to 3 feet.

27. Sword Fern, *Nephrolepis cordifolia*. Bright green, narrow, upright fronds in tufts 2-3 feet tall. Plant spreads by thin, fuzzy runners and can be invasive if not watched. When planted in shade, does well with little water.

28. Viburnum, Caprifoliaceae. Deciduous shrub or small tree. Fragrant flowers and clusters of single seeded, often brilliantly colored, fruit much liked by birds. Various colors and bloom time.

29. Blue Rhapsody, *Rhododendron*. Exceptional trusses are large, blue-purple. Each flower has a blotch of black purple on the upper petal and throat. The white stamens contrast nicely with the purple flower. The foliage is long and narrow, somewhat cup shaped.

31. Japanese Maple, *Acer palmatum*. Mr Jensen's.

32. Trude Webster, *Rhododendron*. Mr. Jensen's. Of all the numerous rhododendrons, this is the most commonly planted one. The trusses are absolutely gigantic, in a clear shade of pink. The foliage is large, wide, and slightly twisted making a perfect combination with the trusses. A super plant and flower. Awarded the first Superior Plant Award, the highest award possible for a rhododendron. Grows to 5 feet in 10 years.

33. *Ponticus variegatum*, *Rhododendron*. Campanulate, pale to deep lilac-pink to purple, usually spotted greenish yellow. Truss holds 6-20 flowers. Distinguished by its variegated foliage, leaves

are up to 7 1/2 inches long and harrow with silvery margins and irregular leaf tips. Dense to leggy shrub.

34. Camellia. Mr. Jensen planted these tree sized camellias. Camellia blooms should be pickup and not put into compost bins because they carry camellia petal blight.

35. Yew Pine, *Podocarpus macrophyllus*. Shrub or tree. Grows to 50 feet high, with bright green leaves 4 inches long. Heat and drought tolerant.

36. Golden Globes, *Lysimachia congestiflora* "Walkabout Sunset". Ground cover. Yellow-green foliage accented with yellow flowers spring to summer. Deadheading not necessary. Deer resistant.

37. Golden Creeping Jenny, *Lysimachia nummularia* "Aurea". Ground cover. Forms a leafy mat only 2-4" tall. Roots where leaf nodes come in contact with the soil. Thrives in damp soils which will often kill off other types of ground covers. It features rounded, slightly ruffled, leaves (to 3/4" diameter). Profuse, cup-shaped, bright yellow flowers (to 3/4" across) appear in early summer.

38. English Hawthorne, *Crataegus laevigata*. Tree. English Hawthorn reaches a height of 20 to 25 feet. It grows rapidly in a pyramidal form to about 20 feet, the the crown expands to become oval or irregular. The tree tolerates most soils, growing well in clay, but prefers heavy, dry loam. The main ornamental feature is white or pink flowers borne in spring. Good fall color. Some types produce ornamental scarlet fruits. Though quite ornamental, Hawthorns are severely affected by insect and disease problems.

39. Flowering Quince, *Chaenomeles*. Flowering quinces are multi-stemmed deciduous shrubs. They bear red, pink, or orange flowers. The shades change as the blossoms age (e.g., scarlet ages to a maroon). The bushes are thornless and fruitless. Plants bloom in the spring.

40. Japanese Maple, *Acer japonicum*. “Ed Wood” full Moon Maple. Deciduous. The Ed Wood Full Moon Maple is a dramatic and unusual members of the large family of Japanese maples. It is renowned for its large leaves, which can be 6 inches wide and deep. Although they are divided in narrow fingers like the other Japanese maples, they are broader, and the overall effect is like an open fan - or the full moon. This variety is notable for its healthy, vigorous growth and dramatic palette of fall color - yellow, orange and red.

41. Japanese Maple, *Acer palmatum* “Beni Komachi”. The name “Beni Komachi” means “beautiful red-haired little girl.” Deciduous. A dwarf, densely branched, small tree or shrub. The new foliage, which is delicate appearing at first, is bright crimson. The intense color begins to darken as the least matures, and older foliage is a greenish red. The margins remain edged in crimson. In the fall, the colors again become a scarlet tone.

42. Japanese Mable, *Acer palmatum dissectum* “Garnet”. Deciduous. A stunning mound-forming small tree with arching branches which are clothed with feathery, large, deeply and finely cut garnet-red leaves on purple stems in spring and summer turning to bright orange in autumn. It will make a perfect focal point in a garden in soil or in a large container. Leaf color is best in partial shade. Height up to 3 feet, spread to 5 feet.

43. *Bergenia*, *Crassifolia*. Evergreen perennial. Large, green, leathery glossy leaves with red margins that rise from the center

of a perennial clump to reach 1-2 feet tall. The rose-pink flower clusters rise on short stout stalks among the foliage in mid-winter through early spring. Best when grown in light shade or cool sun in a well-drained soil with little to moderate watering.

44. Columbia Sycamore, *Platanus x acerifolia* Columbia. Deciduous. A strikingly beautiful tree with an erect growth pattern, it grows quickly and can reach 30 feet in 12 years, or 50 feet in 25 years. It will spread about half as wide as it is tall. Five-lobed medium to dark green leaves are a nice foil to the handsome peeling bark that is gray-yellow to gray-orange when new and gray-green with age. Come fall, the leaves turn yellow and drop allowing a better view of the fascinating bark patterns. Its fruit balls are sticky spheres. This is a fabulously adaptable tree that is unfazed by soil type, smog, heat, or disease. It will be happiest in full sun with moderate water and deep rich soil.

45. Scarlet Oak, *Quercus coccinea*. Deciduous. Aptly named, the scarlet oak is a parade of red throughout the seasons. In the early spring, new leaves unfurl with a red hue. The vibrant red fall display is truly magnificent. And those red leaves often hang on through the first snow, giving winter a touch of much-needed color. The inner bark of the scarlet oak is even red. Tolerance of poor soils and wind resistance combine with its beauty to make the scarlet oak a widely used species throughout parks, in large yards and along streets. Perhaps these are also the reasons why it has the honor of being the official tree of the District of Columbia.

46. Maiden Hair Tree, *Ginkgo biloba*. Deciduous tree. Unique, fan-shaped leaves turn a stunning yellow color in the fall. It can tolerate many urban conditions including heat, air pollution, salt and confined spaces. It establishes easily, reaching a height of

25-50 feet and a spread of 25-35 feet at maturity. Full sun and partial shade are best for this tree. It tolerates moderate drought.

47. Golden-rain tree, *Koelreuteria paniculata*. Deciduous. The golden-rain tree lends grace and charm to the landscape throughout the entire year - rare yellow tree blossoms in the late spring and summer, graceful paper lanterns dandling from the branches in autumn and winter. But this tree is more than just looks. Golden-rain trees are hardy, thriving in the tough urban environment in an astonishingly wide range of soil conditions. Height of 30-40 feet and a spread of around 35 feet at maturity. Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree. It has some drought tolerance.

49. Sage, *Salvia microphylla*. "Hot Lips" Blooms all through the hottest summers, attracting hummingbirds and butterflies. Drought tolerant once established. Plant in full sun, quickly grows to 3 feet by 3 feet.

50. Common California Fuchsia, *Zauschneria californica mexicana*. Tender perennial with bright orange-red fuchsia shaped flowers. Low spreading ground cover, grayish leaves are evergreen in mild winter climates. Attracts Hummingbirds, drought tolerant, evergreen, heat tolerant. Once established, needs very little water.

51. Tansy, *Tanacetum Niveum*. Dazzling performer, it makes a silvery lacy dome up to 2 foot tall and 30 inches across. So nice for foliar contrast! And when it blooms, thousands of small white flowers form a dense mound of blinding white daisies for months. Bug proof, deer proof, drought tolerant and not fussy about soil. Cut back to 3 inches tall after bloom for a second show. Self-sows, too!

52. Lambs ears, *Stachys byzantina*. Lamb's-Ears are one of the most popular silver-leaved perennials, used widely for edging along pathways and borders. Plants form a dense clump of soft, felty silver grey leaves. Upright spikes of magenta-pink flowers form in early summer, but these should be clipped off to maintain a tight, compact habit. Clumps are easily divided in spring or early fall. Evergreen in mild winter regions. Drought tolerant once established.

53. Rose, climber, "Fourth of July". With clusters of bright white, semi-double flowers accented by deep red stripes, Fourth of July may be closer than any other rose to resembling an American flag! Featuring between 10 to 16 velvety petals, the 4 1/2-inch blooms contain an intoxicating fragrance, fittingly much like that of freshly baked, homemade apple pie. Especially vigorous early in the season, they repeat throughout the entire summer. The re-blooming begins in the first year! The climbing canes stretch 12 to 14 feet in length, a great size for walls, pergolas and trellises.

54. Obedience Plant, *Physostegia virginiana*. Perennial. 4 foot stems which frequently grow in clumps and bear long leaves in a 4-6 inch terminal spikes of pink to lavender, tubular flowers. Pinkish flowers in a spike-like cluster along upper part of a square stem. The perennial's long-lasting flowers have five triangular lobes, two forming an upper lip and three forming a lower lip. This attractive plant is snapdragon-like, but its square stem is typical of the mint family. If the flowers are bent, they tend to stay in the new position for a while, hence the common name of Obedient Plant. Several garden forms occasionally escape to the wild. Flowers can be swiveled into new positions where they stay obediently.

60. Cape Fuchsia, *Phygelius aequalis*. Cape Fuchsia are native to South Africa, but surprisingly hardy perennials. Plants make a

bushy, upright mound of green foliage, bearing showy clusters of fuchsia-like firecracker flowers beginning in mid-summer and continuing into the fall. This beautiful selection has creamy-yellow blooms, a wonderful shade that will blend with anything. These adapt well to containers, and in cold winter areas may be wintered indoors. Plants form a woody base and should be pruned back to 6 inches or so each spring. Great for cutting.

61. Oregon Grape, *Mahonia aquifolium*, "Golden Abundance". Evergreen shrub. Holly-leaf Oregon-grape is a 3-6 ft., mound-shaped, broadleaf with pinnately compound, glossy, leathery leaves. The 5-9 dark-green leaflets are armed with spiny teeth and turn reddish in fall. Terminal clusters of bright-yellow, bell-shaped flowers are followed by clusters of tiny blue, grape-like fruits. The bronzy copper color of the new growth in spring is an added bonus. This stout shrub is the state flower of Oregon. The berries of this and other Oregon-grape species are eaten by wildlife and make good jelly. Native Americans made a yellow dye from the bark and wood of this shrubby species. Several are used as ornamental garden plants; in the nursery trade some of them are known by the common name Mahonia.

62. Heavenly Bamboo, *Nandina domestica*. Evergreen. Lacy green leaves on upright cane-like stems turn brilliant red in autumn. Clusters of tiny cream-colored flowers are followed by bright red berries in the fall. Versatile and durable, effective as a specimen plant for screening or in borders. Use for mass plantings to create an intense, colorful landscape effect as color changes. Partial to full sun, water weekly, or more in extreme summer heat, 6 to 8 feet tall, 3 feet wide.

63. *Fuchsia triphylla* "Gartenmeister". Perennial, evergreen. This vigorous, upright shrub tolerates heat better than other fuchsias. Dark bronze-red leaves and stems provide striking contrast to

vibrant clusters of deep coral-red tubular flowers in late spring and summer. A must for the hummingbird garden! Performs well in containers. Use as an annual in cooler climates. Full to partial shade, keep moist but not soggy, 1 to 3 feet tall and wide, red flowers, late spring through fall; nearly year round in warm areas. Attracts Hummingbirds.

64. *Grevillia canberra*. Evergreen shrub. Vigorous, rounded shrub to 8 feet high and wide bearing dark green needle-like leaves. Bright pinkish-red waxy flowers appear most of the year, and especially in winter and spring. Plants adapt well to shade and most soil types, and are useful for screening and hedging, and even for controlling foot traffic. Hardy in most coastal California gardens and tolerant of long periods of drought, this is a tough, dependable shrub.

65. Japanese Anemone, *Anemone japonica*. Perennial. A long-lived fibrous-rooted plant. Blooms in the fall. Likes partial shade. Graceful, branching stems 2-4 foot high rise from clumps of dark green leaves. Flowers are semidouble.

66. Redtwig Dogwood, *Cornus sericea*. Deciduous shrub. Numerous small white flat-topped flowers appear in late spring, giving way to clusters of white berries in summer. The fruits are both attractive ornamentally and popular with birds. Red leaves provide autumn color, and the show continues through winter when the dramatic red stems are a striking point of interest. Spreading by suckers to form thickets, *Cornus sericea* is an excellent shrub for screening, and very moisture tolerant.

67. Evergreen Dogwood, *Cornus capitata*. An elegant, large evergreen shrub or small tree, this slow growing Dogwood is a perfect anchor for the shrubby border. Handsome, curved leathery leaves with light green veins provide a pleasing texture and turn

bronze in the winter months. Buttonlike flower heads surrounded by creamy yellow bracts precede the long lasting, prominent, pinkish red strawberry-shaped fruit that appears in November and can be brought inside as a colorful complement to holiday greenery.

68. Redtwig Dogwood, *Cornus sericea* "Hedgerow Gold". Deciduous shrub. Hedgerows Gold' is a redbud dogwood that is primarily grown for its bold variegated foliage and its dark red winter stems. This is a suckering shrub that typically matures to 5-8' tall and as wide. Ovate to lanceolate, medium green leaves (2-4" long) are variegated with irregular bright yellow margins. Leaves turn interesting shades of pink to red in autumn.

69. *Camellia sasanqua* "white Doves" Evergreen shrub. A densely branched, pyramidal to oval-rounded, tree-like, evergreen shrub that typically grows to 6-10' tall. It is native to Japan. It is ornamentally noted for its attractive dark green foliage and fall to early winter flowers. White to pale pink, 6-8 petaled, mildly aromatic flowers (2-3" diameter), each having a central mass of bright yellow-anthered stamens, bloom late summer to early winter depending on local climate. Petals fall after several days but stamens remain, with additional flowers continuing to open in succession over a period of 4-6 weeks.

70. Golden Full Moon Maple, *Acer shirasawanum* "Aureum" Deciduous tree. Small, rounded Japanese maple, with lime-to-chartreuse-tinged golden leaves. In fall, its leaves turn orange and red, just like those of a sugar maple. This variety, like other small Japanese maples, needs shade and protection from sun and drying winds to keep the foliage from curling and turning brown at the edges.

71. *Camellia hiemalis* "Chansonette". Evergreen shrub. The 'Chansonette' cultivar of snow camellia is an upright evergreen

shrub native to eastern and southern continental Asia. Its miniature, bright pink, formal double (extra-petaled) flowers appear in midwinter to very early spring. Petal edges are frilled, mimicking the look of sasanqua camellia flowers. The glossy, dark green and leathery leaves are pointed ovals with toothed edges.

72. Bear's Breech, *Acanthus mollis*. Perennial. *Acanthus mollis* reaches on average 12–31 inches of height. It has basal clusters of deeply lobed and cut, shiny dark green leaves, soft to the touch, up to 16 inches long. The inflorescence is a cylindrical spike 12–16 inches long and can produce up to 120 flowers. The flowers are tubular, whitish, and lilac or rose in color. Each flower is up to 2.0 inches long and it is surrounded by three green or purplish bracts. The central bract is spiny and larger than the other two. The calyx has two lips: the upper is purple on top, rather long and forms a kind of "helmet" on top of the corolla. The corolla is reduced to a white lower lip, trilobed, with purple-pink venation. The four stamens are fused to the corolla and look like tiny brushes. This species flowers in late spring or early summer, from May through August. The shape of the *Acanthus* leaf of this plant inspired the ancient Greek sculptor Callimachus (5th c. BCE) to model the capital (crown) of the Corinthian column. Since then, the Corinthian order column has been used extensively in Greco-Roman architecture.

74. *Magnolia x. Soulangiana* "Lombardy Rose". Deciduous tree. Commonly known as saucer magnolia. It is the most commonly grown deciduous magnolia. It is a broad shrub or small tree that typically rises to 20-25 feet tall with a rounded crown. It is often grown in a multi-trunked shrubby form. It typically matures over time to 20-30 feet tall and as wide. Fragrant flowers (to 8" across) bloom in early spring before the foliage emerges. Flowers are pink with white interiors. Sparse numbers of additional flowers may bloom sporadically later in spring on new growth, but the

later flowers are usually less vigorous and less colorful than those of the primary bloom. Flowers rosy purple outside, white flushed with purple inside.

75. California Buckeye, *Aesculus californica*. Deciduous tree. California Buckeye is a species in the Sapindaceae family that is endemic to California, and the only buckeye native to the state. It is found over a large part of the state. It is a large shrub or small tree growing to 13 to 40 feet tall, with gray bark often coated with lichens or mosses. It typically is multi-trunked with a crown as broad as it is high. The leaves are dark green with five (rarely seven) leaflets, each leaflet 2 to 6 inches long, with a finely toothed margin and (particularly in spring) downy surfaces. The leaves are tender and prone to damage from both spring freezing or snow and summer heat and desiccation. It tends to drop its leaves readily. The leaves drop early, so it may seem like the tree is dead in July. It is not dead, just dropping its leaves. Caution should be exercised in using this plant in the garden because the fruits are toxic.

76. Curry Plant, *Helichrysum italicum*. Perennial. It can't tolerate a hard frost. It prefers soil that drains well, full sun and warm conditions. It's a perfect choice for intermittent drought prone areas or for a xeriscaped (low water) garden. It performs well in poor soil and isn't finicky about niceties like pH (although keeping things on the neutral side wouldn't hurt). Because it's such a good sport about water, it doesn't require mulching. It's also a natural pest repellent. Bugs tend to avoid it, and deer hate it. Growing to a height of about 30 inches or so, curry plant looks like a cross between lavender and rosemary. It has soft, gray-green foliage and produces small yellow flowers. It may require staking.

77. Lilac, *Syringa vulgaris*, various hybrids. Deciduous shrub. *Syringa vulgaris*, commonly known as common lilac, is an upright,

multi-stemmed, suckering, shrub in the olive family that typically matures to 12-16 feet tall with a spread to 8-12 feet wide. It is native to open woodlands, rocky hills and scrubby areas in southeastern Europe, but has been widely cultivated throughout Europe (beginning in the late 1500s) and North America (brought over by colonists in the early 1600s). It is particularly noted for its mid to late spring (May) bloom of very fragrant, tubular, 4-lobed, lilac to purple flowers (each to 1/3 inch long) which bloom in large conical to narrow-pyramidal panicles (to 6-8 inches long). Flowers give way to loose clusters of smooth, brown, flattened, dehiscent seed capsules (each to 3/4 inch long) which persist into winter if not removed. Glaucous, opposite, pointed-ovate to heart-shaped leaves (2-5 inches long) are dark gray-green to blue green. No fall color. Bark is gray to gray-brown.

78. Star Magnolia, *Magnolia kobus stellata* 'Rosea'. Deciduous. The tree blooms at a young age, with the slightly fragrant 3–4 inch flowers covering the bare plant in late winter or early spring before the leaves appear. There is natural variation within the flower color, which varies from white to rich pink; the hue of pink magnolias also changes from year to year, depending on day and night air temperatures prior to and during flowering. The flowers are star-shaped, with at least 12 thin, delicate petal-like tepals—some cultivars have more than 30. The leaves open bronze-green, turning to deep green as they mature, and yellow before dropping in autumn. They are oblong and about 4 inches long by about an 1.5 inches wide. These magnolias produce a reddish-green, knobby aggregate fruit about 2 inches long that matures and opens in early autumn. Mature fruit opens by slits to reveal orange-red seeds, but the fruits often drop before developing fully.

