Native Plants

Select a native plant that suits your yard

Plants that arrived and survived in Hawaii prior to human contact are considered to be native. These plants traveled to Hawaii without the help of people by three methods: Wind, Water and Wings (birds- inside or outside). Many native Hawaiian plants are beautiful, easy to grow and are now available for purchase through local nurseries. The table below list some of the more common native plants that are suitable for most landscapes. Native Plant photos by Amy Tsuneyoshi, HBWS.

Plant name	Habitat	Height	Spread	Water requirement
'Ae'ae Bacopa monnieri	Thrives in moist areas	2-4 inches	1-4 feet	Moderate to Heavy
'Ākulikuli Sesuvium portulacastrum	Tolerates salt, wind, drought	2-5 feet	1-2 feet	Light
Hinahina Heliotropium anomalum	Tolerates salt, wind, drought	2-6 inches	2-4 feet	Moderate
Tlima papa Sida fallax	Tolerates salt, wind, drought	2-8 inches	3-4 feet	Moderate
Nanea Vigna marina	Tolerates salt, wind, drought	6-8 inches	4-8 feet	Moderate
Pā'ūohi'iaka Jacquemontia ovalifolia	Tolerates salt, wind, drought	2-4 feet	3-5 feet	Moderate
Põhinahina Vitex rotundifolia	Thrives in sandy soils	0.5-4 feet	3-6 feet	Moderate

Plant name	Habitat	Height	Spread	Water requirement		
Alula Brighamia insignis or rockii	Thrives in well drained soils	3-6 feet	3 feet	Light	1 / 30	
Ko'oko'olau Bidens torta	Thrives in dry to mesic areas	4-10 feet	8 feet	Light to Moderate		
Naupaka (Dwarf) Scaevola coriacea	Thrives in well drained soils	1-2 feet	4 feet	Light		
Pia Tacca leontopetaloides	Thrives in various habitats	4-6 feet	6 feet	Light to Moderate		
Pua kala, Hawaiian Poppy Argemone glauca	Thrives in well drained soils	3-6 feet	4 feet	Light		
'Uki'uki Dianella sandwicensis	Thrives in various habitats	2-8 feet	6 feet	Moderate		

^{*} These Endangered Plants MUST have a tag detailing that it was legally cultivated for sale and not poached from the native forest.

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	SHRUB				
	Plant name	Habitat	Height	Spread	Water requirement
	'Ānapanapa	Tolerates dry areas	4-8 feet	8 feet	Light to Moderate
	Colubrina asiatica				
*	Ko'oloa'ula	Tolerates dry areas	3-6 feet	2-4 feet	Light
	Abutilon menziesii	_			_
	Kulu'ī	Tolerates dry areas	3-6 feet	8 feet	Light to Moderate
	Nototrichium sp.				
	Maiapilo	Thrives in dry to	3-5 feet	3-5 feet	Moderate
	Capparis sandwichiana	mesic areas			
	Ma'o	Tolerates salt, wind,	2-6 feet	11 feet	Light to Moderate
	Gossypium tomentosum	drought			
*	Ma'o Hau Hele	Tolerates dry areas	4-11 feet	8 feet	Light to Moderate
	Hibiscus brackenridgei				
	'Ŭlei	Thrives in various	4-10 feet	4-6 feet	Light to Moderate
	Osteomeles anthyllidifolia	habitats			





	SHRUB-TREE					
	Plant name	Habitat	Height	Spread	Water requirement	
	'A'ali'i Dodonaea viscosa	Thrives in dry and coastal areas	8-31 feet	8-15 feet	Light to Moderate	
	Alahe'e Psydrax odoratum	Thrives in dry to mesic areas	11-57 feet	10-23 feet	Moderate	
*	Koki'o ke'oke'o Hibiscus arnottianus	Thrives in dry to mesic areas	6-30 feet	19 feet	Moderate	
*	Nānū Gardenia brighamii	Thrives in dry areas	15-25 feet	11 feet	Moderate	
	Pāpala Charpentiera sp	Thrives in shady moist areas	17-23 feet	11 feet	Moderate	
	Pāpala kēpau Pisonia sp	Thrives in shady moist areas	15-30 feet	19 feet	Moderate	





TREE				
Plant name	Habitat	Height	Spread	Water requirement
Kōpiko	Thrives in mesic	15-25	23 feet	Moderate
Psychotria sp	areas	feet		
Lama	Thrives in dry to	8-57 feet	23 feet	Light to Moderate
Diospyros sandwicensis	mesic areas			
Lonomea	Thrives in dry to	23-57	38 feet	Moderate
Sapindus oahuensis	mesic areas	feet		
Loulu	Tolerates salt,	11-61	15 feet	Moderate
Pritchardia sp	wind, drought	feet		
Olopua	Thrives in dry to	31-50	23 feet	Moderate
Nestegis sandwicensis	mesic areas	feet		
'Ōhi'a	Thrives in a	11-57	15 feet	Moderate
Metrosideros polymorpha	variety of areas	feet		



