

# GROUND COVERS FOR WARM CLIMATES

Fred D. Rauch

HITAHR · COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES · UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII



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## THE AUTHOR

**Fred D. Rauch** is a Specialist in Horticulture, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii.

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**On the cover:** *Gazania uniflora leucoleana* in use on a bank.

## GROUND COVERS FOR WARM CLIMATES

Fred D. Rauch

### INTRODUCTION

Ground covers have become an essential component of most gardens. They provide a low carpet of green that clothes the ground for the purpose of keeping down weeds, preventing erosion, and protecting the roots of trees and shrubs from extremes of heat and cold. They may also add charm to the garden by showing off trees, shrubs, and flowering plants to best advantage. Ground covers are commonly used as substitutes for grass, especially in areas where it is difficult to maintain or grow grass, such as deep shade or steep slopes, and they can add variety to the landscape.

A variety of plant material may serve the functions of a ground cover: that it be suitable for covering the ground, make a fairly dense mass of greenery, and be able to get along with minimal attention. The selection of a specific plant will depend on where it is to be used and will include such factors as hardiness, soil preference, moisture and light requirements, height, and floral and leaf character-

istics. For specific information on covers recommended for Hawaii, consult *Ground Covers for Hawaii Landscapes* by Degen, Criley, and McLain (6).

This annotated checklist was developed to provide a guide to some plant materials that might be useful as ground cover plantings in warmer climates. In developing this list, the broad definition of ground covers used includes some of the taller but sprawling shrubs, such as star jasmine, and selected vining plants that may be useful for large, open areas and bank covers. Also included are some plants better adapted to cooler climates, such as English ivy, which may be useful at higher elevations in tropical areas. A few of the ornamental grasses have been included, but the common grasses used for turf are not listed. Most of the materials included are available in commercial nurseries, but may not be available in quantities from local growers. The nomenclature used in this publication conforms to that in *Hortus Third* (3).

## CHECKLIST

### Abelia grandiflora 'Prostrata'

#### Prostrate Glossy Abelia

An evergreen or half-evergreen woody shrub with 1.5-inch-long shining leaves, which is a prostrate form (1.5 to 2 feet) of the glossy abelia. Small, bell-shaped white with pink flowers are produced in loose terminal clusters. Prefers a sunny location with a well-drained soil enriched with organic matter.

### Abronia umbellata

#### Pink Sand Verbena

A trailing perennial with slender, fleshy, often reddish stems, 1 to 3 feet long. Thin, narrow to oval leaves and rose-purple flowers. Suitable for holding sand in beach gardens. Cultivars include 'Grandiflora' with larger flowers; 'Rosea' with pale flowers.

### Achillea tomentosa

#### Woolly Yarrow

A woolly, mat-forming, herbaceous perennial growing to 1 foot high. The long, narrow leaves are deeply divided into many segments. Bright yellow, daisylike flowers. Best in full sun at higher elevations. Cultivars include 'Aurea' with dark yellow flowers; 'Nana'.

### Agapanthus orientalis

#### Blue Lily-of-the Nile

Evergreen bulb-forming perennial with thick, fleshy leaves, growing to 2 feet or more. Clusters of blue, funnel-shaped flowers are produced on long stalks. An excellent garden or tub plant for sun or partial shade locations but slow to spread. Cultivars include 'Albidus' with white flowers; 'Mooreanus' with dark blue flowers and narrow leaves; 'Nanus', a dwarf, compact form; 'Peter Pan', a free-blooming dwarf variety; 'Variegatus' with striped foliage.

**Aglaonema commutatum**

## Chinese Evergreen

Evergreen perennial growing to 2 feet high. Leaves deep green, spotted with light green. Small greenish white flowers followed by clusters of yellow to red berries. Best in rich, moist soils but will tolerate low water conditions. Good in poorly lighted situations. Cultivars include 'Pseudobracteatum' (white rajah) with white stems marked with green and green leaves with large, irregular areas of gray-green and white next to main veins.

**Aglaonema pictum**

## Spotted Evergreen

Evergreen growing 6 to 12 inches tall. Upper leaf surface dark blue-green with large, irregular, pale green and silvery blotches. Cultivars include 'Tricolor' with yellowish green leaves spotted yellow.

**Ajuga reptans**

## Carpet Bugleweed

Evergreen herbaceous perennial forming a dense carpet, 4 to 12 inches deep, spreading by stolons. Blue flowers on upright spikes in the spring. Rapid spreading to give a quick cover, tolerates wide pH range (5 to 8) and shade or full sun, but requires moist conditions. Cultivars include 'Alba' with creamy white flowers; 'Atropurpurea' with bronze-purple leaves and dark purple flowers; 'Giant Bronze', more vigorous with deep metallic bronze leaves; 'Giant Green' with large, bright green leaves; 'Jungle Bronze' with large, rounded, wavy-edged leaves of bronze tone; 'Jungle Green' with rounded, crisped green leaves; 'Variegata' with mottled creamy white leaves.

**Alocasia cucullata**

## Chinese Taro

Herbaceous clumping perennial with large (16-inch-long), glossy green peltate leaves. Grows 3 to 4 feet high from a starchy underground corm. Best in moist areas with highly organic soils with excellent drainage.

**Aloe barbadensis**

True Aloe, Barbados Aloe

Succulent, herbaceous perennial forming clumps of fleshy, pointed, pale green leaves to 24 inches long with spiny edges and clusters of yellow flowers on a 3-foot-high stalk, usually in winter months. Best in well-drained soils in full sun.

**Alternanthera ficoidea**

Joseph's Coat, Copperleaf

Small herbaceous perennial, 6 to 12 inches high. Small, green, pointed leaves and small, white inconspicuous flowers produced sessile in leaf axils. Often used for edging or special landscape designs. Full sun. Cultivars include 'Amoena' (parrotleaf), a dwarf plant with leaves blotched and veined red and orange; 'Aurea Nana', a selection with yellow leaves; 'Betzickiana' (calico plant), erect with leaves blotched and colored in shades of yellow and red; 'Brilliantissima', bright red spoon-shaped leaves; 'Rosea Nana', a selection with rose-colored leaves; 'Sessilis', a selection with short-stalked leaves; 'Versicolor' (snowball) with copper red or blood red rounded leaves.

**Alternanthera repens**

Creeping Joy Weed

More compact, develops roots at the nodes and covers the ground like a carpet.

**Aptenia cordifolia**

Baby Sun Rose, Hearts and Flowers

Succulent perennial with prostrate branches to 2 feet long. Heart-shaped, four-ranked green leaves to 1 inch long and purple-red, many-petalled flowers. Best in full sun. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with white borders on leaves.

**Arabis caucasica**

Wall Rock Cress

Trailing herbaceous perennial to 12 inches high with whitish pubescent leaves. Fragrant flowers with white petals. Best at higher elevations in full sun, thrives in poor soils. Cultivars include 'Florepleno' with double flowers; 'Pinkcharm' with pink flowers; 'Rosabella' with pink flowers; 'Variegata' with green leaves and creamy white margins.

**Arachis glabrata**

Forage Peanut

Perennial legume with extensive rhizomes and stems at or near the soil surface, making a dense cover 12 to 18 inches high. Dense, attractive dark green foliage with four leaflets and numerous bright yellow flowers. Suitable for wide range of soil conditions in full sun; excellent for bank cover and erosion control.

**Arctostaphylos uva-ursi**

Common Bearberry, Kinnikinnick

Prostrate, creeping woody plant to 12 inches high with small (1-inch), shiny, rounded leaves. Small white or pink flowers and attractive red fruit. Several selected forms available. Does best in acid soils in full sun but can be used in partial shade for cooler areas.

**Arctotheca calendula**

Beachweed, Capeweed

Herbaceous perennial that rapidly covers the ground with creeping stems, which root at each node and make a dense cover 8 to 12 inches high. Has a coarse foliage with silver beneath and yellow, daisylike flowers. Good for erosion control in full sun and hot, dry areas with well-drained soil.

**Arenaria balearica**

Corsican Sandwort

Mat-forming perennial to 2.5 inches high with mosslike foliage. Rounded, pubescent leaves to 3/16 inch long and small white, pubescent flowers. Good for shaded, rocky slopes with lots of water.

**Arenaria verna**

## Irish Moss

Cushion-forming perennial with linear leaves, to 3/4 inch long, and white flowers. Useful in limited areas in full sun or partial shade with good soil and ample water. Cultivars include 'Aurea' with yellowish green leaves.

**Armeria maritima**

## Sea Pink

Evergreen herbaceous perennial forming mats or dense little clumps to 12 or more inches high. Linear leaves to 4 inches long and pink or white flowers in 1-inch heads. Will grow in any soil but best in well-drained, sunny locations with higher pH.

**Arundinaria pygmaea**

## Pygmy Bamboo

One of the smallest known bamboos, 6 to 12 inches high. Forms dense clumps from vigorous creeping rootstocks. Bright green leaves, to 5 inches long, on zigzag stems with purple nodes. Good erosion control. Best in full sun. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with white variegated foliage.

**Asparagus densiflorus**

## Asparagus

Arching or drooping woody stems, 3 to 6 feet long. Loose clusters of fragrant white or pinkish flowers. Bright red berries. Popular for hanging baskets or containers. Tolerates a wide range of soils, but best when fertile and moist. May be grown in sun or partial shade. Cultivars include 'Myers' with very dense, short-branched, stiffly erect or spreading stems, to 2 feet, forming narrow plumes; 'Sprengeri' (sprenger asparagus), loosely branched, drooping stems to 3 feet long. Commonly grown for its graceful, airy masses of "foliage." Other forms of 'Sprengeri' available.

**Asparagus setaceus**

## Asparagus Fern

Woody, climbing evergreen vine, 10 to 20 feet long. Extremely fine-textured, bright green foliage, tiny white flowers, and small purple-black berries. Grows best in part shade. Cultivars include 'Cupressoides' with



dense, cypresslike habit; 'Nanus' (dwarf asparagus fern) with smaller growth habit; 'Pyramidalis' with loose, pyramidal habit; 'Robustus', especially vigorous.

**Aspidistra elatior**

Cast-iron Plant, Barroom Plant

Evergreen perennial, 18 to 30 inches high with arching dark, glossy green leaves 1 to 2.5 feet long. Thrives under conditions unacceptable to most plants. Will grow in dark, shaded areas, but slow to spread. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with leaves striped green and white.

**Asystasia gangetica**

Coromandel

Trailing evergreen herb, climbing several feet high on fences and among taller plants. Flowers in clusters, light violet and white, about 1 inch long. May be grown in sun or partial shade, wet or dry locations. Vigorous under favorable conditions.

**Aurinia saxatilis**

Basket-of-gold, Yellow Alyssum

Mat-forming perennial with woody roots. Used in rock gardens for its bright yellow flowers. Several cultivars have been offered. Best at higher elevations.

**Baccharis pilularis**

Dwarf Baccharis, Coyote Brush

Spreading evergreen shrub with small (to 3/4-inch-long), dark green, slightly toothed leaves. Grows to 1 foot high and to 10 feet across. Will tolerate poor soils but well-drained conditions are essential. Cultivars include 'Twin Peaks' with darker green, smaller leaves and wide-spreading growth habit (15 feet or more).

**Begonia Rex-Cultorum Hybrids**

Rex Begonia

Herbaceous plant with large ornamental leaves. Clusters of pink or white flowers rise above the leaves, usually not showy. Best in partial shade and often used for accent and color effects. Slow to spread.

**Begonia Semperflorens-Cultorum Hybrids**

Bedding Begonia

Succulent herbaceous plant, 6 to 18 inches high. Leaves shiny green with red on main veins and small clusters of red to white flowers. Full sun or partial shade.

**Bergenia crassifolia**

Siberian Tea

Herbaceous perennial that develops into a large clump with large oblong leaves, to 8 inches long. The showy early flowers are produced on 18-inch stalks and range from medium rose purple to deep reddish purple.

**Caladium hortulanum**

Fancy-leaved Caladium

Tuberous-rooted perennial, 2 to 4 feet high, of mixed hybrid origin. Large arrow-shaped leaves colored in bands and blotches of red, rose, pink, white, silver, bronze, and green. Best in moist soil under light shade. Slow to spread. Useful for color accent in the garden or in interiorscapes. Many cultivars available including 'Candidum' with white leaf blade and dark green veins and margin.

**Calathea makoyana**

Peacock Plant

Showy foliage plant, 2 or more feet high. Leaves with areas of olive green or cream above, pink blotches beneath. Flowers inconspicuous. Needs shade with porous, well-drained soil. Useful in interiorscapes.

**Calathea ornata**

Bigleaf Calathea

Herbaceous perennial with large (2-foot-long) leaves, rich green above and dull purple-red beneath. Young leaves often marked with pink and white lines along lateral veins. Cultivars include 'Roseo-lineata' with young leaves marked with rose lines; 'Sanderana' with slightly wider leaves marked with fine white lines, compact.

**Calathea zebrina**

Zebra Plant

Compact perennial, 1 to 3 feet high. Leaves velvety green with alternating bars of pale yellow green and olive green extending outward from midrib; purple red underneath. Cultivars include 'Binotii' with larger, darker colored leaves.

**Campanula elatines**

Adriatica Bellflower

Herbaceous perennial with slender stems spreading from a root crown, to 6 inches high. Clusters of many small (to 0.5 inch across), white or blue, bell-shaped flowers are produced. Best under cooler temperatures, in well-drained soil and filtered shade. A variable plant with several varieties and cultivars listed.

**Canna generalis**

Common Garden Canna

A group of herbaceous perennial hybrids of mixed parentage with tuberous rootstock. Large, rich green to bronzy red leaves, 3 to 5 feet high. Variety of colored bloom available. Full sun in fertile, moist soil high in organic matter. Cut stalks to ground after blooming. Several cultivars available.

**Carissa grandiflora**

Natal Plum

Several compact forms of this dense, upright, attractive shrub with dark green foliage, white flowers, and large red fruit are available. Excellent near the beach in a variety of soils; full sun but takes shade. Cultivars include 'Boxwood Beauty' with compact growth to 2 feet high and no thorns; 'Green Carpet' with smaller foliage and low-growing (12 to 18 inches), spreading (4 feet) habit; 'Horizontalis' with compact, spreading growth, 1.5 to 2 feet high; 'Minima' with smaller leaves and flowers, 12 to 18 inches high; 'Prostrata' with a very low and spreading growth habit; 'Tuttlei' with very compact and spreading growth habit (2 to 3 feet high and 3 to 5 feet wide) and heavy production of flowers and fruit.

**Carpobrotus chilensis**

Sea Fig, Ice Plant

Coarse, succulent perennial with stems to 3 feet or more, forming extensive mats. The three-angled leaves are 1.25 to 2 inches long, and magenta flowers are 3.5 inches across. Fast growing and useful in dry areas and for binding loose beach sand.

**Carpobrotus edulis**

Hottentot Fig

Coarse, succulent perennial spreading to 6 feet or more with three-angled, curved green leaves to 4.75 inches long. The light yellow, yellowish pink, or purple flowers are 4 inches across. Fast growing and useful in dry areas and for binding loose beach sand.

**Catharanthus roseus**

Madagascar Periwinkle

Everblooming perennial herb or small shrub, 1 to 2 feet high. Glossy leaves 1 to 3 inches long. Phloxlike flowers (1.5 inches wide) in rose pink to white. Sun or partial shade in ordinary soil with plenty of moisture. Cultivars include 'Albus' with white flowers; 'Bright Eyes' with white flowers and red eyes, dwarf; 'Coquette' with rose flowers, dwarf; 'Ocellatus' with white flowers with a rose pink to carmine red eye.

**Centaurea cineraria**

Dusty-miller

Compact, upright perennial, 1 to 3 feet high, with strap-shaped, velvety white leaves. The purple (sometimes yellow) flowers are produced in solitary 1-inch heads. Best in full sun in light, neutral soils. One of the more popular dusty-millers.

**Centaurea gymnocarpa**

Dusty-miller, Velvet Centaurea

Bushy perennial, 1 to 3 feet high, with white feltlike leaves that are finely divided. The rose-violet or purple flower heads are produced at the ends of leafy branches. Needs full sun.

**Centaurea ragulina**

Dusty-miller

Herbaceous branching perennial, 1 foot or more high, with divided woolly white leaves. Solitary 1-inch flower heads are bright yellow. Full sun.

**Cerastium tomentosum**

Snow-in-summer

Mat-forming perennial, 6 to 8 inches high, with 2- to 3-foot spread and linear (1-inch-long), white woolly leaves. Showy white flowers to 1 inch across. Common rock garden plant. Plant in full sun in soils with good drainage.

**Ceratostigma plumbaginoides**

Blue Leadwort

Herbaceous perennial to 20 inches high, with somewhat zigzag stems. Dark blue tube-shaped flowers to 1 inch long.

**Chamaemelum nobile**

Chamomile

Creeping, much-branched perennial to 1 foot high with aromatic downy stems. The 2-inch-long leaves are two- to three-pinnately divided with flowers in 1-inch heads; disc flower yellow and ray flower white. Sun or light shade.

**Chlorophytum comosum**

Spider Plant, Bracket Plant

Evergreen perennial forming 1- to 3-foot-high clumps of soft green, curving leaves like long, broad grass blades. White flowers. Partial shade, moisture loving, slow spreading. Excellent interior plant with sun or hanging baskets. Cultivars include 'Mandaianum' dwarf plant with 6-inch-long leaves with bright yellow central strip; 'Picturatum' with leaves to 1 foot long with central yellow strip; 'Variegatum' with white marginal leaves; 'Vittatum' with recurved leaves with central white stripe.

**Chrysanthemum superbum**

Shasta Daisy

Hardy, sturdy perennial of hybrid origin with good summer and fall color. Grows 2 to 4 feet high with white, gold-centered flowers. Many varieties available. Full sun in well-drained soil.

**Clivia miniata**

Kaffir Lily

Herbaceous perennial with fleshy roots forming dense clumps of dark green strap-shaped leaves to 18 inches long. Numerous hybrids available with flowers ranging from white through yellow, orange, red and deep orange-red followed by ornamental red berries. Best in light shade with rich, moist soil.

**Coleus hybridus**

Coleus

Herbaceous perennials, 3 to 6 feet high, grown for their brilliantly colored leaves, with terminal flower spikes of pale to dark blue. Best in light shade. Need rich, well-drained soil with ample water. Hybrid assemblage of over 200 cultivars of the common garden coleus.

**Convallaria majalis**

Lily-of-the-valley

Rhizomatous herbaceous perennial forming a dense carpet to 8 inches high. Linear to oblong leaves and white fragrant, waxy, bell-shaped flowers. Best in cooler locations with partial shade. Cultivars include 'Aureo-variegata' with yellow variegated leaves; 'Fortunei' with larger flowers and foliage; 'Rosea' with pink flowers; 'Prolificans' with double flowers.

**Convolvulus mauritanicus**

African Bindweed

Prostrate herbaceous perennial, 1 to 2 feet high, trailing to 3 feet, with small, rounded, gray-green leaves and clusters of blue or violet-purple flowers, to 2 inches across. Best in full sun with good drainage.

**Coprosma kirkii**

Creeping Coprosma

Hybrid spreading shrub, 2 to 3 feet high or nearly prostrate. Small, yellow-green leaves, 0.5 to 1 inch long. Tolerates sun, wind, and salt spray. Drought tolerant once established.

**Coronilla varia**

Crown Vetch

Straggling herbaceous perennial, to 2 feet high, with creeping roots and rhizomes. Five to 12 pairs of leaflets, 0.5 inch long, and pink and white flowers. Useful for erosion control in full sun.

**Cotula squalida**

New Zealand Brass Buttons

Slender herbaceous perennial, a few inches high, with creeping, hairy stems 0.25 inch to 1 foot or more. Clusters of fernlike leaves at the nodes, to 2 inches long, and yellow button flower. Sun or partial shade.

**Crassula multicava**

Trailing Jade Plant

Small, perennial succulent herb with oval or rounded leaves to 3 inches long and white or pinkish flowers. Rampant grower in sun or shade in any soil.

**Ctenanthe compressa**

Bamburanta

Herbaceous perennial to about 2 feet high with green, linear to oblong, healthy leaves to 16 inches long, gray-green beneath; insignificant whitish flowers. Best in partial shade in rich, moist soil.

**Ctenanthe lubbersiana**

Ctenanthe

Perennial herb to 2 feet high. Narrow, linear green leaves 7 to 9 inches long, variegated irregularly with pale yellow above, pale green beneath. Flowers are small whitish spikes. Best in partial shade in rich, moist soil.

**Cuphea hyssopifolia**

False Heather

Compact branched shrub, 6 to 24 inches high, with narrow, small (0.5- to 0.75-inch-long) evergreen leaves. Tiny flowers in pink, purple, or white. Easy to grow in sun or partial shade in ordinary soil with moisture. Fairly slow growing. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white flowers.

Cuphea ignea

Cigar Flower

Shrubby compact perennial, 1 to 3 feet high and across. Flowers tubular, 0.75 inch long, bright red with dark ring at end and white tip. Ordinary soil, sun or part shade. Pink-flowered form available.

Cyanotis kewensis

Teddy-bear Plant

Trailing herbaceous perennial with reddish hairy stems. Linear, 1- to 1.5-inch leaves, green above with red tips and red beneath. Red flowers produced in axils of uppermost leaves.

Cylindrophyllum speciosum

Red Spike Ice Plant

Succulent perennial with bright cerise-red flowers. Grows 3 to 5 inches high, spreading to 15 to 18 inches wide. Spiky, bronzy red leaves point straight up. Sun loving; heat and drought tolerant. Good for erosion control.

Cyperus gracilis

McCoy Grass

Fine-leaved perennial sedge, forming a thin mat, 2 to 6 inches high. The greenish flower heads are produced on stems 3 to 12 inches high. Needs moisture; grows in sun or shade.

Cyrtomium caryotideum

Holly Fern

Coarse-textured fern with dense scaly rhizomes. The large three to six pairs of pinnae are finely serrated along the margins.

Cyrtomium falcatum

Japanese Holly Fern

Coarse-textured, handsome fern, 2 to 3 feet tall, with dense scaly rhizomes. The leaflets are large, dark green, glossy, and leathery. Cultivars include 'Butterfieldii' with deeply serrated margins; 'Compactum' with dwarf habit; 'Mandaianum' with triangular leaf segments; 'Mayi' with crested leaf segments; 'Rochfordianum' with fringed margins.



**Cytisus spp.**

Broom

There are a number of species and cultivars of broom with low, spreading growth habits making them suitable as small area ground covers or in rock gardens. Valued for their display of pea-shaped flowers available in various colors. Best in full sun in light, well-drained soils. May be best at higher elevations.

**Davallia trichomanoides**

Squirrel's-foot Fern

Creeping fern with very finely divided fronds to 12 inches long from light reddish brown, furry rhizomes. Commonly used as a hanging basket plant but useful as a small-scale ground cover in partially shaded areas in well-drained soil. Other species of Davallia are available and useful.

**Delosperma 'Alba'**

White Trailing Ice Plant

One of the best trailing types for covering slopes. Dwarf, spreading plant, rooting freely from stems. Small white flowers and fleshy leaves of good green color. Grows 6 to 8 inches high. Requires sunny location in rich, well-drained, porous soils.

**Dianthus deltoides**

Maiden Pink

Herbaceous perennial, forming dense clumps 6 to 18 inches high. The green, linear leaves are often pubescent along the margins. The flowers are deep pink with dark, spotted bands at the base of the petals. Easy to grow in full sun but better in cooler areas. Cultivars include 'Albus' with white flowers; 'Coccineus' with scarlet flowers; 'Compactus' with compact growth habit; 'Erectus' with upright growth habit; 'Glaucus' with whitish bloom; 'Nanus' with dwarf habit; 'Roseus' with rose flowers; 'Ruber' with red flowers; 'Serpillifolius' with 0.5-inch-long leaves, mat forming.

**Dichondra micrantha**

Lawn Leaf, Dichondra

A small creeping plant, 1 to 3 inches high. Small, rounded or kidney-shaped bright green leaves and tiny solitary, whitish flowers. Does well in sun or shade and grows best in moist, well-drained soils. Excellent lawn substitute.

**Dichorisandra musaica**

Herbaceous perennial that requires abundant moisture. Leaves are dark green above with purple midrib and purple beneath. Produces terminal clusters of blue and white flowers. Cultivars include 'Gigantea' with large flowers.

**Dietes bicolor**

African Iris, Morea

Herbaceous perennial growing to 2 feet tall with creeping rhizomes. Lemon yellow, 2-inch flowers with three brown spots at base. Full sun in any fairly good soil and ample water in summer.

**Dietes vegeta**

African Iris

Perennial plant to 3 feet tall with creeping, stout rhizomes. Waxy white flowers, 2.5 inches across, with yellow or brown bands, crest of style marked with blue. Full sun in any good soil. Cultivars include 'Johnsonii' with longer erect leaves and larger flowers.

**Dimorphotheca sinuata**

Cape Marigold

Plants 4 to 12 inches high. Narrow, 3-inch-long leaves, tapering at base. Flowerheads 1.5 inches across, with orange-yellow rays, sometimes deep violet at base. Yellow centers. Best in light soils, full sun.

**Dissotis plumosa**

Dissotis

A creeping herb with ovate leaves 0.5 to 1 inch long. Solitary, phlox purple flowers. Best in full sun with ample moisture, but can be grown in light shade. Rapid growth rate.

**Dolichos hosei**

**Sarawak Bean**

Trailing herbaceous, mat-forming legume, to 6 inches high. The dark green trifoliate leaflets are oval to 2.5 inches long. The small yellow, pealike flowers are seldom seen. A vigorous grower that is good on banks for erosion control in shade or sun.

**Drosanthemum hispidum**

**Lavender Ice Plant**

Succulent trailing shrub to 6 inches high and 3 feet or more across. The thick, cylindrical, 1-inch-long leaves are light green or reddish, and the deep purple flowers are 1.25 inches across. Grows in poorest soils; good on slopes for erosion control. Other species available.

**Epipremnum aureum**

**Pothos**

Trailing perennial vine. Juvenile growth with slender stems and heart-shaped, 12-inch-long, glossy, bright green leaves with irregular yellow or white marbling. The mature stems are green or striped with yellow or white, climbing to 40 feet or more. The mature leaf blades are 30 inches or more long, often divided, with green to heavy yellow or white variegation. Cultivars include 'Marble Queen' with white to creamy irregular, blotched leaves, ivory petioles, and green striped stems; 'Tricolor' with medium green leaves, marbled or spotted with deep yellow, cream, and pale green; 'Wilcoxii' with variegations sharply defined from the green portions, and petioles and stems often ivory white.

**Episcia cupreata**

**Flame Violet**

Herbaceous perennial with coppery or reddish green to clear green or silver variegated leaves, 1 to 3 inches long. The tube-shaped flowers are reddish on upper side and yellowish with red markings on lower side. Cultivars

include 'Metallica' with leaves banded centrally with pale green and margins metallic pink; 'Tropical Topaz' with yellow flowers; 'Variegata' with silver pattern in center of leaves.

**Erigeron karvinskianus**

Trailing Fleabane

Herbaceous perennial or subshrub, to 1.5 feet high, with much-branched, more or less trailing stems to 3 feet long. The solitary flowerheads (0.75 inch across) are white, fading to pink, and finally reddish purple. Blooms most of the year. Easy to culture in sun or light shade and sandy soil.

**Erodium chamaedryoides**

Crane's-bill, Alpine Geranium

Herbaceous perennial that forms dense foliage tuft, 3 to 6 inches high and 12 inches across. Small (0.33-inch-long), rounded, dark green leaves on long petioles. Profusion of small white flowers with rose veins. Slow growing. Best in full sun or partial shade in porous soil with ample moisture. Cultivars include 'Album' with white flowers.

**Erodium corsicam**

Heron's-bill

Herbaceous perennial to 6 inches high. The 0.75-inch flowers are pink with rose veins. Thrives in dry, sunny locations with good loamy soil. Slow grower.

**Euonymus fortunei**

Winter Creeper

Evergreen shrub, trailing or climbing to 20 feet. The glossy green leaves (to 2 inches long) have serrated margins. Small greenish flowers. Adapted to many soils and locations in sun or partial shade. Several varieties and cultivars available.

**Euphorbia milii**

## Crown-of-thorns

Woody, spiny, climbing shrub with stems to 4 feet long. The oval (2.5-inch-long) leaves are mostly on the young growth. The flower bracts are bright red or yellow. Best in porous soil in full sun with regular watering. Varieties include hislopii with smaller leaves and pink or red floral bracts; splendens with brilliant red floral bracts.

**Festuca ovina**

## Sheep Fescue

Densely clustered perennial grass to 12 inches high. The variety glauca (blue fescue) with leaf blades covered with bluish bloom is often used in ornamental plantings in sunny or partly shaded locations. Requires good drainage.

**Ficus montana**

## Oak-leaf Fig

Prostrate shrub with 6-inch rounded leaves, which are lobed and notched on the sides.

**Ficus pumila**

## Creeping Fig

Vigorous vine, clinging to walls by means of roots. Small (less than 1-inch), sessile, rounded leaves on creeping stems and oblong, 2- to 4-inch-long leaves on fruiting stems. Yellowish, pear-shaped fruits. Full sun or partial shade in wide range of soils. Good for covering large areas and for covering rock or stone. Cultivars include 'Minima' with slender leaves in juvenile form; 'Quercifolia' with lobed leaves; 'Variegata' with leaves variegated green and white.

**Ficus sagittata**

## Trailing Fig

Vigorous creeping or trailing vine with linear leaves, 2 to 4 inches long. Does well in sun or shade and prefers moist, heavier soils. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with gray-green leaves irregularly marked with cream white.

**Ficus tikoua**

## Waipahu Fig

Evergreen trailing shrub, 12 to 18 inches high, with light green, ovate leaves to 2 inches long and dark, 0.5-inch-long fruit. Best in light shade.

**Fittonia verschaffeltii**

## Mosaic Plant, Nerve Plant

Creeping herbaceous plant that roots at the joints. Requires shade and high humidity. Varieties include verschaffeltii, typical variety with handsome, dark green leaves with conspicuous red veins; argyroneura with light green leaves and white veins; argyroneura 'Nana' with smaller leaves; pearcei with veins and midrib a bright crimson.

**Fragaria chiloensis**

## Beach Strawberry

Perennial stemless herb, 4 to 8 inches high, with long runners rooting at the nodes. The dark green, glossy leaves have three toothed leaflets. The large, white flowers are followed by small, rose-colored fruits. Sun or light shade and regular watering for best results.

**Gardenia jasminoides 'Radicans'**

## Trailing Gardenia

Dense evergreen shrub, growing 6 to 12 inches high and spreading 2 to 3 feet. Small, dark green leaves and white fragrant flowers. Grows best in sun with fertile, moist, acid soils and organic matter.

**Gazania 'Copper King'**

## Copper King Gazania

Evergreen perennial forming a mound of dark green, lobed leaves, woolly gray beneath. Immense bronze red flowers in great profusion. Most colorful of all gazanias.

**Gazania pavonia**

## Pavon Gazania

Herbaceous perennial with lanceolate leaves, woolly white beneath. Daisylike flowers, orange terra cotta with basal blackish spot, ringed white.

Gazania rigens

Treasure Flower, Pied Gazania

Herbaceous perennial with short branching stems to 16 inches long. Leaves green above, woolly white beneath, about 4 inches long. Flowers are yellow with white center and dark brown spots. Good for dry soil conditions.

Gazania uniflora leucoleana

Trailing Gazania

Herbaceous perennial 6 to 8 inches high, spreading rapidly by long, trailing stems. Silver gray foliage with yellow, orange, white, or bronze daisylike flowers. Good on banks or in hanging baskets. Tolerates alkaline soils but requires good drainage.

Gelsemium sempervirens

Evening Trumpet Flower,

Carolina Yellow Jessamine

Evergreen, twining shrub with purple stems and glossy, lance-shaped leaves, narrowed at the base. The fragrant, bright yellow flowers are produced throughout the season. May be used as a cover for porches and banks in open areas. Relatively slow growing and best in full sun in any soil with moisture.

Geogenanthus undatus

Seersucker Plant

Semisucculent herbaceous perennial with unbranched stems to 10 inches long. The oval, leathery leaves with undulating surface are 3 to 5 inches long, dark green above with silver-green stripes and wine red beneath. The 3/8-inch-long fringed flowers are violet, lasting one day. Requires well-drained soil with abundant moisture. Best in shade and useful for interiorscapes.

Gerbera jamesonii

Transvaal Daisy

A hairy, perennial herb with lobed leaves to 10 inches long. Single scarlet to orange-red flowers on 12- to 18-inch stalks. Best in full sun, good soil with excellent drainage. Slow to spread. Many color forms have been developed ranging through shades of yellow, salmon, pink, and red, along with dwarf forms.

Glechoma hederacea

Ground Ivy

Creeping herbaceous perennial with small (0.5-inch-long), rounded, opposite leaves. Bluish flowers produced in axils of regular foliage leaves. Well suited to damp soils, but may become a serious garden weed.

Glottiphyllum depressum

Fig Marigold

Prostrate perennial herb up to 6 inches high. The narrow, strap-shaped leaves are soft and pulpy, up to 4 inches long. Yellow flowers to 2 inches across. This moderately vigorous plant is best in full sun and makes a good cover for barren, rocky soils and sandy bank and slopes. Salt tolerant.

Gomphrena globosa

Globe Amaranth

Garden annual that grows 12 to 18 inches high and is covered with rounded, papery, cloverlike flowers (pink, purple, violet, or white). Flowers can be dried. Several dwarf cultivars available.

Hedera canariensis

Algerian Ivy

Evergreen woody vine with shiny, rich green leaves, 5 to 8 inches wide, with three to five shallow lobes. Requires more moisture than English ivy. Best in soil rich in organic matter in cooler locations. Cultivars include 'Canary Cream' with leaves heavily blotched or variegated ivory white; 'Margine-maculata' with burgundy red stems and petioles, and leaf margins cream colored with flecked or spattered green; 'Striata' with burgundy red twigs and petioles, green leaf margins, and midvein section streaked light green to ivory;



'Variegata' with light cream-colored flecked leaf margins and midvein section blue- or gray-green; 'Variegata Arborescens', shrubby with oval, slightly lobed leaves variegated cream and green; 'Viridis' with pale green leaves with darker network of veins, often with variegated areas.

**Hedera helix**

English Ivy

Evergreen, woody vine with dark, dull green leaves 2 to 5 inches wide at base, commonly three to five lobed. Good for holding soil on banks in sun or partial shade. Cool nights optimum for good growth. Will climb walls or fences. Over 90 cultivars are listed (3).

**Heliconia humilis** 'Dwarf Jamaican'

Jamaican Heliconia

A low-growing form of the lobster claw to 2 feet high with large (to 12 inches long), dark green, oval leaves often with red midvein, erect red inflorescence. Best in shaded locations in rich, well-drained soil with ample water.

**Heliconia psittacorum**

Parrot's Heliconia

Tufted perennial with long-stemmed, narrow, rich green leaves. Stalked inflorescence of shiny orange, long-pointed bracts tipped red, and greenish yellow flowers with black spot near apex. Best in rich soil with plenty of water. Rapidly spreading by rhizomes.

**Heliotropium amplexicaule**

Creeping Heliotrope

Hairy herbaceous perennial that spreads over the ground. The narrow, oblong pointed leaves are nearly stemless with wavy edges. The small, odorless, bluish violet flowers with yellow centers are produced in coiled spikes at the branch tips.

**Hemerocallis fulva**

Orange Daylily, Tawny Daylily

Perennial herb with spreading rhizomes, forming clumps to 6 feet tall. Flowers tawny orange red, 3 to 5 inches long, without fragrance. Cultivars include 'Cypriana' with glossy foliage and many brownish flowers; 'Flore Pleno' and 'Kwanso' with coarse, green leaves striped with white and double flowers; 'Maculata' with larger flowers marked inside with red-purple; 'Rosea' with rose red flowers; 'Virginica' with double orange flowers overlaid with rose.

**Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus**

Yellow Daylily, Lemon Daylily

Perennial with tuberous, somewhat fleshy roots. Grows to 3 feet with arching sword-shaped leaves. Fragrant, clear yellow flowers, 4 inches long. Grows in most soils and is free of pests. Cultivars include 'Major', taller with larger, deep yellow flowers; 'Rosea' with deep pink flowers.

**Hemigraphis alternata**

Metallic Plant, Red Ivy

Creeping perennial herb, 12 to 18 inches high, with metallic purple leaves above, solid purple below. Small, white flowers with dark purple bracts. Sun or shade.

**Hemigraphis 'Exotica'**

Waffle Plant

Creeping herbaceous perennial with puckered, purple leaves.

**Hemigraphis repanda**

Prostrate herbaceous perennial with linear, 2.5-inch purplish leaves. Small, white flowers in terminal spikes. Excellent in moist, shaded locations. Cultivars include 'Okamotoi' with narrow wavy-edged leaves; variegated form available.

**Herniaria glabra**

Green Carpet, Rupturewort

Evergreen trailing perennial under 3 inches high with crowded, tiny bright green leaves. Flowers negligible. Grows vigorously in full sun in hottest places.

**Hypericum calycinum**

Rose-of-sharon, Creeping

St.-John's-wort

Vigorous stoloniferous, evergreen subshrub with leaves to 4 inches long covered with bluish powder and conspicuously net veined beneath. Large (to 2 inches across), solitary yellow flowers. Best in shade in cooler areas. Other low-growing species of Hypericum may be useful as ground covers.

**Hypoestes phyllostachya**

Polka-dot Plant

Herbaceous perennial, to 2 feet high. The oval (2.5-inch-long), thin leaves are dark green marked with lavender pink spots. The solitary flowers are lavender. Best in light shade with loose soil. May become weedy in moist areas.

**Iberis sempervirens**

Edging Candytuft

Evergreen subshrub, to 12 inches high, with linear leaves to 1.5 inches long and white flowers. Make low compact plants useful for edgings in cooler areas. Several cultivars available.

**Impatiens wallerana**

Zanzibar Balsam

Succulent herbaceous perennial with fleshy stems, striped red, and small, coppery ovate leaves growing vigorously to 2 feet tall. Flowers carmine, pink, reddish orange, purple, white, or variegated, 1 to 2 inches across. Many cultivars available. Best in partial shade and moisture.

**Ipomoea batatas**

Sweet Potato

Perennial trailing, rooting vine with tuberous edible roots. Dark green leaves ranging from oval to deeply lobed, to 6 inches long and rose-violet to pale pink flowers. Best in sun.

**Ipomoea pes-caprae**

Beach Morning-glory

Vigorous creeping perennial vine, to 60 feet, with thick fleshy roots. The rounded, fleshy leaves are 4 inches across and notched at the top. The rose-purple flowers, to 2 inches, are bell shaped. Useful as a sand binding plant.

**Iresine herbstii**

Herbst Bloodleaf, Beef Plant

Evergreen shrub, 1.5 to 6 feet high, with leaves almost round and notched at tip, purplish red with light red veins. Flowers minute. Cultivars include 'Aureo-reticulata' with green or greenish red leaves with yellow veins.

**Iresine lindenii**

Linden Bloodleaf

Narrow sharp-pointed leaves, usually deep blood red.

**Jasminum multiflorum**

Star Jasmine

Evergreen, densely pubescent shrub or vine with light green heart-shaped leaves 1 to 3 inches long. White fragrant flowers in clusters resemble 1-inch-wide pinwheels.

**Jasminum nitidum**

Angel-wing Jasmine, Confederate  
Jasmine

Partially climbing shrub with opposite leaves to 3 inches long. Fragrant white flowers, often reddish on the outside in bud.

**Juniperus chinensis 'Nana'**

Dwarf Japgarden Juniper

Low, compact narrow-leaf evergreen growing to 12 inches high by 4 to 5 feet. Curved branches radiate in all directions. Blue-green foliage.

**Juniperus conferta**

Shore Juniper

Prostrate, trailing narrow-leaf evergreen to 1 foot high by 6 to 8 feet wide. Bright green, soft needled with white band. Excellent at seashore and will stand heat if given moist, well-drained soil. Several cultivars available.

**Juniperus horizontalis**

Creeping Juniper

Prostrate narrow-leaf evergreen shrub, slow growing to 18 inches high by 8 feet or more. Dense, short twigs on flat, rather heavy branches, bluish green. Cultivars include 'Alpina' with plants erect to 1 foot when young; 'Aurea' with golden yellow young growth; 'Bar Harbor' with low, compact growth with steel blue leaves; 'Douglasii' (Waukegan juniper) with glaucous, steel blue leaves; 'Plumosa' with horizontal spreading branches; 'Wiltonii', a dwarf form of 'Douglasii'; 'Variegata' with patches of creamy yellow variegation.

**Juniperus sabina 'Tamariscifolia'**

Tamarix Juniper

Symmetrically spreading narrow-leaf evergreen to 18 inches high by 10 to 20 feet. Dense, bright green foliage.

**Juniperus virginiana 'Silver Spreader'**

Silver Spreader Juniper

Silvery green narrow-leaf evergreen growing to 18 inches high by 6 to 8 feet. Feathery, fine texture. Older branches become dark green.

**Justicia brandegeana**

Shrimp Plant

Weak-stemmed, evergreen ornamental shrub, 2 to 8 feet high. Oblong, medium green leaves, to 3 inches long. Tubular white flowers enclosed in coppery bronze, overlapping bracts. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white bracts; 'Yellow Queen' with chartreuse green bracts.

**Lampranthus glomeratus**

Rose Pink Lampranthus

Succulent low, spreading shrubby plant with opposite succulent, narrow leaves, 1 to 2 inches long, which are three-angled and more or less joined at the base. The 2-inch flowers are rose pink, opening about noon. Best in Hawaii well above sea level in cooler areas.

**Lampranthus multiradiatus**

Fig Marigold

Succulent subshrub to 2 feet high with branches erect to spreading. The somewhat three-angled, smooth leaves are incurved, to 1 inch long. The 2-inch flowers are rose to purplish rose, rarely white. Best in cooler areas.

**Lampranthus productus**

Purple Ice Plant

Succulent plant that grows to 15 inches tall and spreads 18 to 24 inches. Gray-green fleshy leaves tipped with bronze. Purple flowers 1 inch wide. Tolerates drought, needs full sun. Plant 12 to 18 inches apart. Best in cooler areas.

**Lantana camara**

Common Lantana, Yellow Sage

Small hairy shrub, growing upright 4 to 6 feet high under cultivation. Flowers in 1- to 2-inch clusters, yellow, orange, or red throughout year. Not particular as to soil. Plant in full sun. Cultivars include 'Alba' and 'Nivea' with white flowers; 'Flava' with sulfur yellow flowers; 'Hybrida', dwarf garden form with yellow flowers; 'Mista' with yellowish outer flowers becoming brick red and yellow inner flowers becoming orange; 'Mutabilis' with white outer flowers changing through yellowish, lilac, rose, and blue and inner flowers opening yellow; 'Sanguinea' with deep red flowers; 'Varia' with yellow flowers, outer becoming purple and inner becoming orange.

**Lantana montevidensis**

Trailing Lantana

Small shrub with long, trailing branches spreading 6 to 10 feet. Pink-lilac flowers in 12-inch-wide clusters. Excellent bank cover or used in hanging baskets. Cultivars include 'Sunburst' with bright yellow flowers.

**Lathyrus littoralis**

Beach Pea

Densely hairy perennial with trailing stems to 2 feet long. Silky, oblong leaflets in two to four pairs and prominent stipules. Attractive purple and white pealike flowers 0.5 inch long. Rapid-growing seashore plant from the West Coast.

**Ligularia tussilaginea**

Kaempfer Goldenray, Farugium

Perennial herb with underground stem and a clump of basal leaves, 1 to 2 feet tall. Leaves leathery, rounded, 6 to 10 inches in diameter. Yellow, daisylike flowers on stems 1 to 2 feet tall. Grow in shady locations. Cultivars include 'Argentea' with leaves irregularly mottled deep green, gray green, and ivory white; 'Aureo-maculata' (leopard plant) with leaves speckled and blotched with cream or yellow; 'Crispata' (parsley ligularia) with gracefully frilled and curled leaf margins.

**Liriope muscari**

Big Blue Lilyturf

Tufted, grasslike plant to 18 inches high. The dark green leaves are up to 2 feet long and 0.75 inch wide; dark violet flowers. Good for both sun and shade but is slow to spread. Cultivars include 'Grandiflora' with light lavender flowers; 'Majestic' with narrow leaves and violet flowers; 'Munroe White', a shade plant with pure white flowers; 'Silvery Sunroof' with gold stripes on leaves turning white as they mature; 'Variegata' with yellow-striped young leaves and dark violet flowers.

**Liriope spicata**

Creeping Lilyturf

Dense, rhizomatous evergreen perennial with dark green grasslike leaves (17 inches long and 0.25 inch wide) growing to 10 inches high. The flowers are pale violet to nearly white. Moderate rate of spread. Best in shade in wide range of soil conditions. Tolerant to salt spray and once established has excellent heat and drought tolerance.

**Lobularia maritima**

Sweet Alyssum

Low, branching, trailing perennial growing to 1 foot tall often used as an annual. Tiny white flowers crowded in clusters, honeylike fragrance. Best in sun in almost any soil. Useful for edging or filler plant. A number of compact cultivars are available with flowers from white to rose and violet.

**Lonicera japonica**

Japanese Honeysuckle

Evergreen climbing vine with oval, dark green leaves to 3 inches long. Fragrant white or purplish flowers and black fruit. This vigorous vine makes a 6- to 8-inch cover for banks, stone walls. Best in sun or shade in heavier, well-drained acid soils. Cultivars include 'Aureo-reticulata' (goldnut honeysuckle) with small leaves netted bright yellow, especially in full sun; 'Halliana' (Hall's Japanese honeysuckle) with white flowers changing to yellow, more vigorous; 'Purpurea' (Texas honeysuckle) with purple leaves; 'Variegata' with yellow variegated leaves.

**Lotus berthelottii**

Coral-gem, Parrot's-beak

Trailing perennial with stems 2 to 3 feet long, thickly covered with silvery gray foliage. Butterfly-type scarlet flowers, 1 inch long. Needs good drainage. Space 34 inches apart. Better at higher elevations.

**Lysimachia nummularia**

Moneywort

Creeping herbaceous perennial with opposite, rounded light green leaves to 1 inch long and small, axillary yellow flowers. Best in shaded, moist areas. Cultivars include 'Aurea' with yellow foliage.

**Maranta leuconeura**

Prayer Plant

Clump-forming herbaceous perennial, to 1 foot tall, with elliptic leaves to 5 inches long. The upper leaf surface is shiny and variegated with light and dark green or brown, sometimes with gray or red main lateral veins, and the lower surface is marked with red-purple. The flowers are white with purple



spots. Requires shaded locations with good drainage. Good for interior use. Varieties include leuconeura, which has a black-green upper surface with a silver gray median, feathered zone, and silver gray veins, lower surface red-purple; erythroneura with rose red main lateral veins (similar to var. kerchoviana); kerchoviana (rabbit's-tracks) with light green upper surface with a row of dark brown or dark green blotches in a line on each side of midrib.

**Mazus reptans**

Creeping Blueblossom

Tiny mat-forming herb growing to 2 inches high, rooting at nodes. Narrow, 1-inch-long, bright green leaves with few teeth on edges. Flowers in clusters of two to five, purple-blue with white and yellow markings. Sun or light shade in rich, moist soil, cool nights.

**Mentha piperita**

Peppermint

Square-stemmed herbaceous perennial hybrid spreading rapidly by underground stems. Dark green toothed leaves and reddish stems. Grows to 3 feet. Small lilac pink flowers in 1- to 3-inch spikes. Varieties include citrata (Bergamont mint, lemon mint) with characteristic lemon odor when crushed; vulgaris with dark red stems and dark green leaves.

**Mentha requienii**

Menthella, Corsican Mint

Small creeping and spreading herb, 0.5 inch high, with very tiny round, bright green leaves. Tiny light purple flowers. Sun or partial shade. Requires moisture.

**Mentha spicata**

Spearmint

Hardy perennial, 18 to 24 inches tall, with smooth, light green leaves with strong, sweet scent. Lilac, pink, or white flowers in dense terminal spikes in summer. Best in light, medium rich, moist soil in partial shade.

**Mentha suaveolens**

Apple Mint

Square-stemmed perennial with soft, woolly, oval leaves growing to 3 feet high, whitish or pink flowers in summer. Sweet-scented foliage. Cultivars include 'Variegata' (pineapple mint) with variegated foliage.

**Mesembryanthemum crystallinum**

Ice Plant

Succulent annual with spreading, much-branched, prostrate stems to 2 feet long. Fleshy leaves to 4 inches long covered with clear, glistening blisters. White to reddish flowers, to 1 inch across. Best in full sun with well-drained soil.

**Mitchella reptans**

Partridgeberry

Evergreen perennial (a few inches high) with trailing, rooting stems to 1 foot long and dark green, glossy, rounded leaves to 0.75 inch long. Small, white, funnel-shaped flowers and red, edible fruit. This slow grower is useful only in cooler, shaded locations.

**Muehlenbeckia axillaris**

Creeping Wire Plant

Much-branched creeping plant growing a few inches high or mounding up to 1 foot. Thin wire stems and small (to 3/8 inch long or less), rounded, dark glossy green leaves. Flowers insignificant. Sun to medium shade.

**Myoporum debile**

Myoporum

Low-growing evergreen shrub, to 1 foot or more tall by 2 to 4 feet wide, with trailing branches. Narrow, dark green leaves. Pink, bell-shaped flowers, 0.5 inch across. A tough, fast growing plant. Is drought resistant.

**Myoporum parvifolium** 'Horshum'

Spreading Myoporum

Spreading shrub to 4 inches high and 10 feet across. Narrow, shiny, bright green leaves and lavender flowers. Tolerant of sandy, seacoast conditions but may have problems with nematodes in Hawaii.

**Myosotis scorpioides**

Forget-me-not

Herbaceous perennial with angled stems from stolonlike rhizome, to 18 inches high. Linear leaves and bright blue flowers with yellow, pink, or white eyes. Best in partly shaded locations in moist soil, cooler locations.

Varieties include semperflorens, dwarf form to 8 inches high.

**Nemophila menziesii**

Baby-blue-eyes

Herbaceous annual with trailing stems to 1 foot long. Lobed 2-inch-long leaves and bright, cup-shaped blue flowers with white centers. Often used in annual borders; best in sun or partial shade. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white flowers; 'Crambeoides' with light blue flowers with purple veins; 'Marginata' with blue flowers with white margins. Varieties include atomaria with white flowers dotted with black-purple; discoidalis with brownish purple flowers, white margins.

**Neomarica gracilis**

Slender False Flag, Walking Iris

Herbaceous perennial with swordlike leaves (about 2 feet long) from short rhizome. Stalks with irislike short-lived flowers. Outer petals white, small inner petals recurved and blue, base marked brown. Best in partial shade.

**Nepeta mussinii**

Catmint

Herbaceous perennial mounding to 2 feet high, with trailing stems to 1 foot long, rounded, gray-green foliage, and small blue flowers. Vigorous plants, good for dry locations.

**Nephrolepis spp.**

Sword Fern

Perennial ferns with short, erect rhizomes, commonly grown as house plants but useful in the garden in warmer climates. They thrive under common or adverse conditions and produce dense, attractive crowns of long, drooping leaves. Best in shade with moisture. A number of species and attractive cultivars available.

**Nertera granadensis**

Coral-bead Plant

Creeping, slender herbaceous perennial with stems to 10 inches long rooting at the nodes. Forms a dense mat to 1 inch high with small rounded leaves, small inconspicuous greenish flowers, and small, fleshy orange fruits. Best in shaded locations in sandy or light soils with moist, cool location.

**Nierembergia hippomanica**

Purple Nierembergia

Trailing pubescent herbaceous perennial, 6 to 12 inches or more high. Linear leaves and small (1/8-inch-long) tubular, bluish flowers. Grown for showy, bell-like flowers in open areas. Varieties include violacea, the commonly cultivated variety, to 15 inches high, with violet flowers.

**Nierembergia repens**

White Cup

Prostrate perennial forming a mat of bright green leaves. Large white, bell-like flowers cover plant in summer. Best in sun with good soil.

**Ophiopogon japonicus**

Mondo Grass, Dwarf Lilyturf

Low tufts of narrow grasslike leaves, 1/8 inch wide by 8 to 12 inches long. Flowers light lilac in short spikes usually hidden by the leaves. Has tuberous root and spreads by long underground stolons. Best in partial shade but will take full sun. Slow to spread. Cultivars include 'Dwarf', a lower growing form.

**Ophiopogon planiscapus**

Evergreen sod-forming perennial, often with stolons, with thickened roots. Green, grasslike, linear leaves, to 20 inches long and 0.25 inch wide, with several veins and white to pale purple flowers. Easy culture in sun or shade. Cultivars include 'Arabicus' with mature leaves turning purple-black and pinkish flowers; 'Nigrescens' (black dragon) dwarf form with purple-black foliage.

**Osteospermum fruticosum**

Trailing African Daisy

Evergreen perennial that spreads rapidly by trailing, rooting branches. Grows 6 to 12 inches tall. Medium green foliage and daisylike flowers, 2 inches across, rays lilac above (fading to nearly white by second day), deeper lilac beneath, and dark purple center. Excellent ground cover for sunny areas; good bank cover. A number of named cultivars available including 'African Queen' with violet flowers; 'White Cloud' and 'Snow White' with white flowers.

**Oxalis pes-caprae**

Bermuda Buttercup

Herbaceous perennial with thickened root and deep scaly bulbs. The three bright green leaflets are often dotted with dark brown. Produces bright yellow, showy flowers. It has a dormant period and spreads rapidly by rhizomes and bulbs and can become a pest in the garden.

**Oxalis rubra**

Window Box Oxalis

Free-blooming evergreen perennial with small rose pink flowers. Leaves contain three coppery green, hairy leaflets. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white flowers.

**Pachysandra terminalis**

Japanese Spurge

Evergreen herbaceous perennial to about 1 foot high. Toothed, 2- to 4-inch-long, dark green leaves and whitish flowers in terminal spikes. Useful for shaded areas in cooler areas with slightly acid soils. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with broader leaves, edged white.

**Papaver orientale**

Oriental Poppy

Robust perennial to 4 feet high with coarse, hairy, pinnately lobed leaves. Flowers usually red with dark basal spot but sometimes orange or pale pink, to 3 inches long. Best in full sun; among the longest-lived poppies but best when left undisturbed. Several colored forms available.

Pelargonium domesticum

Martha Washington Geranium

A complex hybrid derived from several species, familiar as a florist's cultural group with many named cultivars available. Stems usually to 18 inches or more, soft-hairy throughout. The 2- to 4-inch rounded leaves are slightly lobed or toothed. The large flowers are white, pink, red, or purple with dark blotches on the two upper petals. Cool areas required for best color.

Pelargonium hortorum

Common Geranium

A complex hybrid derived from several species, familiar as a garden or bedding plant. Shrubby, succulent-stemmed perennial that grows to 3 feet or more. Leaves are round or kidney shaped, velvety and hairy with zones of color just inside the margins. Flowers single or double in various colors. Full sun or light shade.

Pelargonium peltatum

Ivy Geranium

Herbaceous perennial with trailing stems to 3 feet long or more, to 15 inches high. The 2- to 3-inch rounded leaves have five shallow lobes and are sometimes zoned with red. The flowers are rose carmine varying to white with dark veins on upper petal. Best in full sun. A number of named cultivars available.

Pellionia daveauana

Trailing Watermelon Begonia

Small creeping plant with succulent, hairy-tipped stems. Thin, fleshy leaves, oval when small, brown-purple to blackish with pale green to gray center area. Varieties include viridis with green leaves, sometimes with whitish veins.

**Pennisetum setaceum**

Fountain Grass

Perennial grass with simple stems to about 3.5 feet high. Narrow leaf blade and pink or purple inflorescence to 14 inches long. Best in full sun in dry locations. Cultivars include 'Atrosanguineum' with purple foliage and spikes; 'Cupreum' with reddish foliage and copper-colored foliage; 'Rubrum' with rose foliage and spikes.

**Peperomia obtusifolia**

Baby Rubber Plant

Spreading perennial with succulent stems growing to 12 inches high. Dark green, fleshy, 4-inch rounded leaves. Best in low light in soils with excellent drainage. Fast-growing plant that is also excellent for interiorscapes. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white-yellow young growth marked with bright red; 'Albo-marginata' (silver-edge peperomia) with gray green leaves with silver borders; 'Albo-marginata Minima', dwarf form of preceding; 'Minima', compact form, 2-inch-long leaves; 'Variegata' with green leaves with gray green blotches and irregular creamy white margins. Other species of peperomia are available that are useful in large indoor plantings.

**Peristrophe hyssopifolia**

Java Peristrophe

Weak-stemmed perennial with linear leaves, to 3 inches long, and rose flowers produced in terminal clusters. Best in partial shade with rich, loamy soil and moisture. Cultivars include 'Aureo-variegata' (marble leaf) with yellow variegation in leaf center.

**Philodendron spp.**

Philodendron

A number of the vining philodendrons may be useful as outdoor groundcovers but more commonly used in interiorscapes. Best in shade in rich, well-drained soils with ample water.

**Phlox subulata**

Moss Pink

Evergreen mat-forming perennial to 6 inches high with 1-inch-long linear leaves. The 0.75-inch flowers range in color from red-purple to violet-purple, pink, or white. Easy culture in any garden soil but best with abundant moisture and fertilizer in neutral and alkaline soils, cooler areas with full sun. Rapid cover. Many listed cultivars available.

**Phyla nodiflora**

Lippia, Frogfruit

Fast-growing creeping perennial forming a dense mat about 3 inches tall, rooting at the nodes. Small white or lilac to rose flowers. Will tolerate varied conditions of heat and soil in full sun and is resistant to salt spray. Varieties include canescens (carpet grass) lilac flowers with yellow throat; rosea with rose-colored flowers.

**Pilea cadierei**

Aluminum Plant

Succulent herbaceous perennial to 1 foot high. The oval leaves to about 3 inches long are green with broad interrupted bands of silver. Best in shade with abundant moisture. Cultivars include 'Minima', a dwarf form.

**Pilea depressa**

Clearweed

Free-branching, low, succulent creeping perennial with 0.5-inch, fleshy, roundish, light pea green leaves. Stems root at nodes where touching the ground. Best in shade or partial sun.

**Pilea involucrata**

Panamiga

Freely branching, trailing perennial growing 6 to 8 inches tall. Leaves roundish oval, 1 to 2 inches long, brownish green above, purplish beneath, heavy veined in seersucker effect. Best in light shade with moisture.



**Pilea microphylla**

Artillery Plant

Fernlike, succulent perennial herb growing 6 to 18 inches tall with many spreading branches and fine twigs. Thickly set, bright green leaves 0.25 inch long. Best in light shade with moisture. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with white and pink blotched leaves.

**Pilea nummulariifolia**

Creeping Charley

Low, creeping herbaceous perennial to 8 inches high with thin, reddish branches rooting at the nodes. Leaves are round, to 2 inches across, somewhat succulent and hairy with scalloped edges. Rapid grower that is best in shade with moisture.

**Plectranthus australis**

Swedish Ivy

Creeping perennial herb with small, leathery dark green leaves. Small, white two-lipped flowers in spikes. Best in small shaded areas with moisture. Other Plectranthus species available.

**Plumbago auriculata**

Cape Plumbago, Cape Leadwort

Evergreen shrub or vine growing unsupported to a sprawling, mounding bush to 6 feet tall and 8 to 10 feet wide. Leaves light to medium green, 1 to 2 inches long, and azure blue to white flowers. Takes poor soil and little water, but good drainage is important. May be used in full sun or partial shade. Good for banks. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white flowers.

**Polygonum capitatum**

Pinkhead Knotweed,

Pink Clover Blossom

Rugged, trailing evergreen perennial growing to 6 inches high and spreading to 20 inches. New leaves dark green, old leaves tinged pink. Small pink flowers in rounded heads. Good for waste areas in full sun or partial shade. Rapid grower.

**Polygonum cuspidatum compactum**

Dwarf Japanese Knotweed

Tough, vigorous perennial, 10 to 24 inches high, with creeping roots and stiff, wiry red stems. Pale green, heart-shaped leaves, 3 to 6 inches long, with red veins. Showy clusters of small pale pink flowers. Red in bud. Best in full sun in dry fringe areas of garden. Can become a nuisance near choice plants.

**Polypodium aureum**

Hare's-foot Fern

Fern with coarse, dull, light green scentless fronds, 3 to 5 feet long, and heavy, brown surface-creeping rhizomes. Best in shade with moisture. Cultivars include 'Cristatum' with crested lobes; 'Mandaianum' (blue fern) with deeply laciniate margins; 'Mayi' with strongly undulate lobes.

**Polypodium scolopendria**

Maile-scented Fern, Wart Fern,  
Laua'e Fern

Large fern with woody, wide creeping rhizomes. Broad, thick-leathery, light green fronds, 2 to 3 feet long, with 1 to 2 irregular rows of sori on each side of segment. Best in shade but can be grown in full sun.

**Portulaca grandiflora**

Rose Moss

Succulent herb, 6 inches high and 18 inches across, with low-spreading branches, cylindrical leaves, and colorful, sun-blooming flowers in rose, red, purple, yellow, or white. Full sun in any soil. Drought tolerant but better with occasional watering. Other Portulaca spp. have been introduced with small multicolored flowers.

**Potentilla verna**

Spring Cinquefoil

Spreading evergreen perennial forming a dense mat 3 to 6 inches high. The green, strawberrylike leaves have five leaflets. The golden yellow flowers are profuse during spring and summer. May be used in sun or partial shade with moisture.

**Rhoeo spathacea**

Oyster Plant, Moses-in-the-cradle

Short-stemmed herbaceous perennial, 18 to 24 inches high, with rosette of fleshy, lance-shaped leaves, dark green above and deep purple underneath. Small white flowers peek from boat-shaped bracts. Tough plant, will take high or low light intensity and casual watering. Cultivars include 'Concolor' with uniformly green leaves; 'Dwarf' with smaller leaves; 'Variegata' with leaves striped lengthwise with pale yellow.

**Rosmarinus officinalis**

Rosemary

Evergreen shrub, growing to 2 to 4 feet tall and spreading 4 to 8 feet, with narrow aromatic leaves, glossy dark green above and grayish white beneath. Small clusters of light lavender blue flowers. Endures hot sun and poor soil, but good drainage is required. Cultivars include 'Albus' with white flowers; 'Collingwood Ingram' with graceful curving branches and bright blue-violet flowers; 'Lockwood de Forest' with lighter, bright foliage and bluer flowers; 'Prostratus', prostrate to 2 feet high; 'Tuscan Blue' with rigid, upright stems and bright blue-violet flowers.

**Ruellia ciliosa**

Fringeleaf Ruellia

Hairy herbaceous perennial, growing 2 to 12 inches high. Ovate 3-inch-long leaves and large 2-inch trumpet flowers, blue or white with purple midveins on lobes.

**Ruellia devosiana**

Ruellia

Small pubescent shrub, 18 inches high, with purple stems. Oval leaves, 2 inches long, deep green with prominent whitish midrib and lateral veins above and purple beneath. Tubular flowers, white marked with lilac.

**Ruellia makoyana**

Monkey Plant

Spreading evergreen shrub to 2 feet high. Velvety oval leaves to 3 inches long, marked with white above and purple beneath. Tubular red-purple flowers to 2 inches long. Best in partial shade.

**Sagina subulata**

Corsican Pearlwort

Mat-forming herbaceous perennial with small leaves (to 0.25 inch) and solitary white flowers. Adapted to dry, sandy, rocky locations. Best in cooler areas. Cultivars include 'Aurea' (Scotch moss) with yellow-green leaves.

**Salvia azurea**

Blue Sage

Erect herbaceous perennial growing 1.5 to 6 feet high. Linear leaves, to 2 to 3 inches long, and deep blue flowers. Adapted to dry, stoney sites in full sun. Varieties include grandiflora with longer flowers.

**Salvia leucantha**

Mexican Bush

Small shrub to 2 feet high with white woolly stems. The 2- to 6-inch linear leaves are woolly beneath. The funnel-shaped calyx is densely violet-purple with a white corolla. Best in sun; tolerates drought.

**Sansevieria trifasciata**

Snake Plant, Bowstring Hemp

Stemless perennial, spreading by thick rhizomes. The thick, erect linear leaves, to 4 feet long, are green with light green to whitish green and black-green cross bands. The flowers are greenish white in clusters. One of the easiest culture and most durable plants. Tolerates a wide range of light conditions. Best in light, well-drained soils but tolerates a range of soil conditions. Moderate rate of spread. Cultivars include 'Craigii' with broad, whitish yellow longitudinal stripes; 'Hahnii' (bird's-nest sansevieria), dwarf, forming a short, funnel-shaped rosette; 'Laurentii' with golden yellow marginal stripes. Other Sansevieria species are also available.

**Santolina chamaecyparissus**

Lavender Cotton

Much-branched evergreen shrub growing to 2 feet high. Small, aromatic silver gray leaves and bright yellow buttonlike flowers. Any soil in full sun or partial shade, but avoid overwatering. Cultivars include 'Nana', dwarf form; 'Plumosa' with lacy, silver gray foliage.

**Santolina virens**

Green Lavender Cotton

Similar to above, but with narrower, deep green leaves and creamy chartreuse flowers. Tolerates more water.

**Saxifraga stolonifera**

Strawberry Geranium

Creeping perennial with strawberrylike runners. Rounded white-veined leaves to 4 inches across, pink underneath. White flowers in open clusters. Shade or part shade with considerable moisture. Cultivars include 'Tricolor' (magic-carpet saxifrage) with leaves variegated dark green, gray green, and ivory white, flushed with pink or rose.

**Scaevola frutescens**

Beach Naupaka

A smooth, spreading, succulent shrub about 3 to 10 feet high with tufts of fleshy, bright green leaves 3 to 5 inches long. White fragrant flowers in leaf axils and white succulent berries. Good for beach plantings in full sun. Tolerates alkaline soils. Varieties include sericea with silky downy leaves and flowers.

**Sedum anglicum**

Perry's Green Sedum

Mat-forming succulent perennial with small cylindrical leaves and white or pink 0.5-inch-wide flowers. Cultivars include 'Minus', smaller with pinker flowers.

**Sedum brevifolium**

Green Stonecrop

Creeping succulent perennial with crowded, small chalky gray four- or five-ranked leaves and few white flowers.

**Sedum confusum**

Stonecrop

Succulent perennial growing to 1 foot tall with glossy green leaves, 1.5 inches long by 0.5 to 0.75 inch wide. Dense clusters of yellow flowers.

**Sedum dasyphyllum**

Gray Stonecrop

Pubescent succulent perennial, tufted, to 3 inches high, with small (0.25-inch-wide) white flowers with pink on the back. Sedums do best in full sun and are tolerant of dry conditions. Most are rapid growers with adequate water.

**Selaginella kraussiana**

Trailing Selaginella

Mosslike creeping herb with tiny, bright green scalelike leaves. Useful in terrariums. Avoid overwatering. Best in shade. Cultivars include 'Brownii' (Irish moss), more dwarf; 'Aurea' and 'Variegata' with variegated leaves.

**Selaginella uncinata**

Peacock Moss

Trailing, weak-stemmed mosslike plant, to 2 feet long, with bright blue green leaves, to 0.5 inch long. Best in shaded locations.

**Sempervivum tectorum**

Hen-and-chickens

Evergreen perennial plant with tightly packed rosettes of succulent gray green leaves, tipped red brown. Flowers red or reddish in clusters on stems to 2 feet tall. Needs sun, good drainage, and abundant water. A variable, slow-growing plant known by various names and several cultivars.

**Senecio cineraria**

Dusty-miller

Shrubby perennial to 2 feet high and spreading 24 to 30 inches with stiff, woolly white leaves cut into blunt lobes. Clusters of yellow or creamy flower heads most of the year. Easy to grow in full sun with light watering.

**Senecio serpens**

Blue-chalksticks

Succulent with fleshy, nearly cylindrical leaves, grooved above, 18 inches long, light gray or bluish. Useful ground cover growing to 13 inches tall. The daisylike white flowers are unattractive. Sun or shade, dry or moist soil.

**Sesuvium portulacastrum**

Akulikuli

Prostrate herbaceous perennial with succulent rounded leaves (1.5 inches long) and small pink flowers produced in leaf axils. Useful for sandy beach plantings.

**Setaria palmifolia**

Palm Grass

Perennial grass with pleated leaf blade to 20 inches long.

**Setcreasea pallida**

Tradescantia

Hairy herbaceous perennial with sprawling stems to 20 inches or more long. Plants are green to intense violet-purple with oblong, trough-shaped leaves to 7 inches long and pink flowers. Fast-growing plants for best culture and color in full sun. Cultivars include 'Purple Heart' with violet-purple flowers.

**Soleirolia soleirolii**

Baby's-tears

Low, mosslike creeping perennial herb with tiny (0.25-inch) round leaves. Makes a lush medium green mat, 1 to 4 inches high. Flowers inconspicuous. Grows best in shade with ample moisture.

**Spathiphyllum 'Clevelandii'**

Cleveland Spathiphyllum

Evergreen perennial with glossy green lanceolate leaves, growing 20 to 24 inches high. White spathe turns apple green with age. Partly shaded location in loamy soil. Useful as interior plant.

**Spathiphyllum floribundum**

Snowflower

Dwarf compact plant (about 1 foot) with satiny green, leathery leaves with pale center band and small (to 3 inches long) white spathe. Slow to spread.

**Teucrium chamaedrys**

Germander

Dwarf rhizomatous shrub, 1 to 2 feet, with hairy oblong leaves (0.5 to 0.75 inch long), often deeply serrated; pale to deep purple flowers. Tough plant for poor, hot, and dry location but requires good drainage and better at higher elevations. Cultivars include 'Prostratum', dwarf form with conspicuously trailing stems.

**Thymus herba-barona**

Caraway Thyme

Fast-growing procumbent perennial forming a thick mat (2 to 5 inches high) of dark green, fragrant, small (to 0.5 inch long) rounded leaves and small rose pink flowers. Full sun in well-drained soil.

**Thymus pseudolanuginosus**

Woolly Thyme

Aromatic mat-forming, creeping perennial, 2 to 3 inches high. Small (1/8-inch-long) elliptic leaves, hairy on both sides. Few small pink flowers produced in leaf axils. Best in sun in light, well-drained soils.

**Thymus serpyllum**

Lemon Thyme

Herbaceous perennial forming a flat mat 2 to 6 inches high. Lemon-scented, roundish, 0.25-inch-long green foliage. Small purplish white flowers in headlike clusters. Full sun in light, well-drained soils.

**Thymus vulgaris**

Common Thyme

Shrubby herbaceous perennial, 6 to 12 inches high. Small (0.25- to 0.5-inch-long), linear to oval gray green leaves and small, many-flowered heads of whitish to lilac flowers. Full sun in well-drained soils. Cultivars include 'Argenteus' (silver thyme) with silver variegated leaves.

**Torenia asiatica**

Pansy Torenia, Olaa Beauty

A smooth prostrate annual to 1 foot high. Flowers in short clusters, corolla tube dark violet, four lobes pale violet with a dark spot on three of them. Best in part shade with moisture.



**Trachelospermum jasminoides**

Confederate Jasmine

Twining evergreen vine with opposite oval, dark green leaves to about 3 inches long. Fragrant star-shaped, pure white flowers, about 1 inch across, in terminal and lateral clusters. Best in large, open areas. Provides good cover for slopes and banks in full sun or partial shade in any soil. Cultivars include 'Japonicum' with white-veined leaves; 'Variegatum' with leaves variegated green and white.

**Tradescantia albiflora**

Wandering Jew

Vigorous herbaceous perennial with trailing stems, with lines of hairs on each side, rooting at nodes. Fleshy lance-shaped green leaves and white flowers. Cultivars include 'Albovittata' (giant white inch plant) with white-striped leaves; 'Aurea' with yellow leaves; 'Laekenensis' with pale green leaves, striped with white and banded with purple; 'Variegata' with leaves striped with yellow and white.

**Tradescantia fluminensis**

Wandering Jew

Fast-growing succulent perennial with prostrate or trailing growth habit. Leaves 2.5 inches long, green above, purplish beneath. Flowers white, not showy. Best in shade with moisture. Several cultivars available including 'Variegata' with yellow or white striped leaves.

**Tropeolum majus**

Garden Nasturtium

Quick-growing succulent perennial herb, climbing to 6 feet or more. Showy, single or double funnel-shaped flowers ranging through maroon, red brown, orange, yellow, and red to creamy white. Sandy, well-drained soils in sun with moisture.

**Verbena peruviana**

Peruvian Verbena

Perennial, forming a very flat mat, stems rooting at nodes. Clusters of flowers with white corolla tube and rich scarlet lobes. Needs sun and heat and is drought resistant. Hybrids available in several colors.

**Veronica repens**

Creeping Speedwell

Creeping, mat-forming (to several inches high), mosslike perennial with oval glossy leaves to 0.5 inch long and pale blue flowers to 0.25 inch across. Needs sun and heat and is drought resistant. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white flowers; 'Rosea' with pink flowers.

**Vinca major**

Big-leaf Periwinkle

Trailing evergreen subshrub with stems to several feet long, mounding 6 to 12 inches high. Oval, dark green, glossy leaves to 2 inches long and tube-shaped blue flowers to 2 inches long. Best in shade with moisture at higher elevations. Cultivars include 'Variegata' with leaves with yellow white margins.

**Vinca minor**

Common Periwinkle

Evergreen perennial trailing herb with glossy, dark green leaves and pale, azure blue flowers with white throats. Best in shade with ample water in cooler areas. Cultivars include 'Alba' with white flowers; 'Bowlesii' with darker blue flowers; 'Flore Pleno' with double, purplish blue flowers; 'Variegata' with variegated leaves.

**Viola odorata**

Sweet Violet

Small perennial herb with runners that root at joints and dark green, heart-shaped leaves. Fragrant, deep violet blue flowers. Rich, moist soil in shaded areas. Host to spider mites. Cultivars include 'Charm' with small white flowers; 'Marie Louise' with fragrant double white and bluish lavender

flowers; 'Royal Elk' with long-stemmed violet-colored flowers; 'Rosina' with pink flowers; 'Royal Robe' with large deep blue flowers; 'Semperflorens', a long-blooming type.

Wedelia trilobata

Wedelia

Vigorous creeping herb, 6 to 8 inches high, with slender trailing stems and fresh green oval or three-lobed leaves. Yellow daisylike flowers. Sun or partial shade in most soils; needs water. One of the most dependable ground covers.

Wikstroemia uva-ursi

Molokai Osmanthus

Small shrub, 2 to 4 feet high, with opposite ovate leaves, small yellow flowers, and reddish fruits. Useful in gardens near the beach and dry areas.

Zantedeschia aethiopica

Common Calla Lily

Herbaceous perennial forming large clumps of leaves, 18 inches long and 10 inches wide, growing 1 to 2.5 feet high. Waxy white spathe, 8 to 10 inches long, surrounding a bright yellow spadix. Best in cooler climates with plenty of water. Cultivars include 'Childsiana', a very floriferous dwarf form; 'Godefreyana', smaller with heavy flowering; 'Hercules', a larger plant; 'Minor', to 18 inches high.

Zantedeschia albomaculata

Spotted Calla Lily

Herbaceous perennial growing about 12 inches tall with white-spotted leaves. Flower bracts creamy yellow or white with purplish blotch at base. Moderate water with drainage.

Zantedeschia elliottiana

Golden Calla Lily

Herbaceous perennial, 18 to 24 inches high, with bright green, rounded heart-shaped, white-spotted leaves and rich yellow flower bracts.

Zantedeschia rehmannii

Pink Calla Lily

Dwarf plant, 12 to 18 inches, with long, narrow, spotted leaves. Flower bracts range from whitish to rose. Cultivars include 'Superba' with deeper pink flowers.

Zebrina pendula

Wandering Jew

Fleshy, trailing evergreen perennial that roots at nodes. Succulent deep green to purple leaves with two broad silver bands, purple beneath. Small rose-purple flowers. Best in shade with moisture. Cultivars include 'Discolor' with glossy coppery and Nile green foliage overlaid and edged with metallic purple; 'Purpusii' with dark red or red-green leaves, not striped; 'Quadricolor' with purple-green leaves striped with green, red, and white.

Zephyranthes candida

Zephyr Lily

Small bulbous plant with bright green, grasslike leaves and funnel-shaped, solitary white flowers. Full sun or light shade. Slow to spread. Yellow and pink forms also available.

Zoysia tenuifolia

Mascarene Grass, Korean Grass

Fine-textured creeping perennial, forms a dark green, dense mat, developing ridges and hummocks with age. Full sun to medium shade.

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## COMMON NAMES INDEX

This is only a partial listing of the common names used in this guide and is provided to aid the user in locating the desired plant material. Those names which use the generic name as part of the common name have been omitted from this list.

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Genus</u>       |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| African Bindweed   | Convallaria        |
| African Daisy      | Osteospermum       |
| African Iris       | Dietes             |
| Akulikuli          | Sesuvium           |
| Alpine Geranium    | Erodium            |
| Aluminum Plant     | Pilea              |
| Alyssum            | Aurinia, Lobularia |
| Amaranth           | Gomphrena          |
| Artillery Plant    | Pilea              |
| Baby-blue-eyes     | Nemophila          |
| Baby Sun Rose      | Aptenia            |
| Baby's-tears       | Soleirolia         |
| Balsam, Zanzibar   | Impatiens          |
| Bamburanta         | Ctenanthe          |
| Barroom Plant      | Aspidistra         |
| Basket-of-gold     | Aurinia            |
| Beach Naupaka      | Scaevola           |
| Beach Pea          | Lathyrus           |
| Beachweed          | Arctotheca         |
| Bearberry, Common  | Arctostaphylos     |
| Beef Plant         | Iresine            |
| Begonia            | Pellionia          |

Bellflower, Adriatica

Bloodleaf

Blueblossom

Blue-chalksticks

Bowstring Hemp

Bracket Plant

Broom

Bugleweed

Buttercup, Bermuda

Calla Lily

Candytuft

Cape Leadwort

Cape Marigold

Capeweed

Carpet Bugleweed

Carolina Yellow Jessamine

Cast-iron Plant

Catmint

Chamomile

Chinese Evergreen

Chinese Taro

Cigar Flower

Cinquefoil, Spring

Clearweed

Copperleaf

Coral-bead Plant

Coral-gem

Campanula

Iresine

Mazus

Senecio

Sansevieria

Chlorophytum

Cytisus

Ajuga

Oxalis

Zantedeschia

Iberis

Plumbago

Dimorphotheca

Arctotheca

Ajuga

Gelsemium

Aspidistra

Nepeta

Chamaemelum

Aglaonema

Alocasia

Cuphea

Potentilla

Pilea

Alternanthera

Nertera

Lotus



|                      |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Coromandel           | Asystasia                       |
| Corsican Pearwort    | Sagina                          |
| Corsican Sandwort    | Arenaria                        |
| Coyote Brush         | Baccharis                       |
| Crane's-bill         | Erodium                         |
| Creeping Blueblossom | Mazus                           |
| Creeping Charley     | Pilea                           |
| Crown-of-thorns      | Euphorbia                       |
| Crown Vetch          | Coronilla                       |
| Daylily              | Hemerocallis                    |
| Dusty-miller         | Centaurea, Senecio              |
| False Flag           | Neomarica                       |
| False Heather        | Cuphea                          |
| Farugium             | Ligularia                       |
| Fern                 | Cyrtomium, Davallia, Polypodium |
| Fescue, Sheep        | Festuca                         |
| Fig                  | Ficus                           |
| Fig Marigold         | Glottiphyllum, Lampranthus      |
| Flame Violet         | Episcia                         |
| Forage Peanut        | Arachis                         |
| Forget-me-not        | Myosotis                        |
| Fountain Grass       | Pennisetum                      |
| Frogfruit            | Phyla                           |
| Geranium             | Pelargonium, Saxifraga          |
| Germander            | Teucrium                        |
| Globe Amaranth       | Gomphrena                       |
| Green Carpet         | Herniaria                       |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Ground Ivy         | Glechoma  |
| Hare's-foot Fern   | Polypodium  |
| Hearts and Flowers | Aptenia   |
| Hen-and-chickens   | Sempervivum   |
| Heron's-bill       | Erodium   |
| Holly Fern         | Cyrtomium   |
| Honeysuckle        | Lonicera  |
| Hottentot Fig      | Carpobrotus   |
| Ice Plant          | Carpobrotus, Cylandrophyllum,<br>Delosperma, Drosanthemum,<br>Lampranthus, Mesembryanthemum |
| Iris               | Dietes, Neomarica   |
| Irish Moss         | Arenaria  |
| Ivy                | Hedera, Hemigraphis,<br>Plectranthus  |
| Jade Plant         | Crassula  |
| Jasmine            | Jasminum, Trachelospermum   |
| Joseph's Coat      | Alternanthera   |
| Joy Weed, Creeping | Alternanthera   |
| Juniper            | Juniperus   |
| Kaempfer Goldenray | Ligularia   |
| Kaffir Lily        | Clivia  |
| Kinnikinick        | Arctostaphylos  |
| Knotweed           | Polygonum   |
| Korean Grass       | Zoysia  |
| Laua'e Fern        | Polypodium  |
| Lavender Cotton    | Santolina   |
| Lawn Leaf          | Dichondra   |
| Leadwort, Blue     | Ceratostigma  |

Lily-of-the Nile, Blue  
Lily-of-the-valley  
Lilyturf  
Lippia  
Mascarene Grass  
McCoy Grass  
Menthella  
Metallic Plant  
Mexican Bush  
Mint  
Molokai Osmanthus  
Mondo Grass  
Moneywort  
Monkey Plant  
Morea  
Morning-glory, Beach  
Mosaic Plant  
Moses-in-the-cradle  
Moss Pink  
Nasturtium  
Natal Plum  
Nerve Plant  
New Zealand Brass Buttons  
Olaa Beauty  
Oyster Plant  
Palm Grass  
Panamiga

Agapanthus  
Convallaria  
Liriope, Ophiopogon  
Phyla  
Zoysia  
Cyperus  
Mentha  
Hemigraphis  
Salvia  
Mentha  
Wikstroemia  
Ophiopogon  
Lysimachia  
Ruellia  
Diets  
Ipomoea  
Fittonia  
Rhoeo  
Phlox  
Tropaeolum  
Carissa  
Fittonia  
Cotula  
Torenia  
Rhoeo  
Setaria  
Pilea

Parrot's-beak  
Partridgeberry  
Peacock Moss  
Peacock Plant  
Pearlwort  
Peppermint  
Periwinkle  
Pink, Maiden  
Pink Clover Blossom  
Polka-dot Plant  
Poppy, Oriental  
Pothos  
Prayer Plant  
Prostrate Glossy Abelia  
Pygmy Bamboo  
Rabbit's-tracks  
Red Ivy  
Rosemary  
Rose Moss  
Rose-of-sharon  
Rubber Plant  
Rupturewort  
Sage  
Sand Verbena, Pink  
Sarawak Bean  
Sea Fig  
Sea Pink

Lotus  
Mitchella  
Selaginella  
Calathea  
Sagina  
Mentha  
Catharanthus, Vinca  
Dianthus  
Polygonum  
Hypoestes  
Papavar  
Epipremnum  
Maranta  
Abelia  
Arundinaria  
Maranta  
Hemigraphis  
Rosmarinus  
Portulaca  
Hypericum  
Peperomia  
Herniaria  
Lantana, Salvia  
Abronia  
Dolichos  
Carpobrotus  
Armeria

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Seersucker Plant     | Geogenanthus  |
| Shasta Daisy         | Chrysanthemum |
| Shrimp Plant         | Justicia      |
| Siberian Tea         | Bergenia      |
| Slender False Fig    | Neomarica     |
| Snake Plant          | Sansevieria   |
| Snowflower           | Spathiphyllum |
| Snow-in-summer       | Cerastium     |
| Spearmint            | Mentha        |
| Speedwell            | Veronica      |
| Spider Plant         | Chlorophytum  |
| Spotted Evergreen    | Aglaonema     |
| Spurge, Japanese     | Pachysandra   |
| Squirrel's-foot Fern | Davallia      |
| St.-John's-wort      | Hypericum     |
| Stonecrop            | Sedum         |
| Strawberry, Beach    | Fragaria      |
| Strawberry Geranium  | Saxifraga     |
| Swedish Ivy          | Plectranthus  |
| Sweet Potato         | Ipomoea       |
| Sword Fern           | Nephrolepis   |
| Teddy-bear Plant     | Cyanotis      |
| Thyme                | Thymus        |
| Tradescantia         | Setcreasea    |
| Trailing Fleabane    | Erigeron      |
| Transvaal Daisy      | Gerbera       |
| Treasure Flower      | Gazania       |

Trumpet Flower, Evening

Verbena, Pink Sand

Violet

Waffle Plant

Wall Rock Cress

Wandering Jew

White Cup

Winter Creeper

Wire Plant, Creeping

Yarrow, Woolly

Yellow Alyssum

Zebra Plant

Zephyr Lily

Gelsemium

Abronia

Episcia, Viola

Hemigraphis

Arabis

Tradescantia, Zebrina

Nierembergia

Euonymus

Muehlenbeckia

Achillea

Aurinia

Calathea

Zephyranthes

### **DISCLAIMER**

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NOTE: As part of a structural reorganization, the Hawaii Cooperative Extension Service and the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station have been merged administratively under the name HAWAII INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

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