Wildscaping Your Garden

Trish & Chris Meyer, Sherman Oaks. Online @ www.wildscaping.com

Gardening for Songbirds

Sambucus mexicana Mexican Elderberry (blue berries in summer)

Heteromeles arbutifolia Toyon or California Holly (red berries in winter)

Prunus ilicifolia Hollyleaf Cherry (red cherries don't last long!)

(also host plant for Pale Swallowtail, Ceanothus Silk Moth)

Mahonia 'Golden Abundance' (yellow flowers in spring, blue berries in fall)

Mahonia nevinii Nevin's Barberry (translucent red berries); rare & endangered.

Vitis californica (Grape) California Wild Grape 'Roger's Red' (bird fave!)

Ribes (Currant) lots of species and selections, including Ribes aureum (yellow)

Ribes malvaceum (pink), Ribes indecorum (white), Ribes viburnifolium (evergreen; ground cover)

Symphoricarpos albus, S. mollis Snowberry (white berries in late summer/fall, winter dormant)

Goldfinch Magnets: Sunflowers*, Agastache*, Hooker's Evening Primrose,

Cobweb Thistle (for nesting material and seed) (+ host plant))

Gardening for Hummingbirds

Salvias (most all species) Salvia 'Waverly' selection * (white/lavendar fl., seed not fertile)

Salvia canariensis (Canary Island Salvia) * (pink-purple)
Salvia spathacea (Hummingbird Sage) (magenta)
Salvia clevelandii (Cleveland's Sage) (blue purple)

plus hybrids of S. clevelandii x S. leucophylla or S. apiana

Agastache (Wild Hyssop) Agastache rupestris * (tubular flowers for humminbirds)

(also seeds for songbirds) Agastache wrightii * (seeds loved by goldfinches)

(drought tolerant, winter dormant) Agastache 'Blue Spike' * (bees fave, seeds for goldfinches)

Penstemon Penstemon heterophyllus (Foothill Penstemon) (blue)

Penstemon parishii (magenta)
Penstemon spectabilis (pink/purple)

Penstemon centranthifolius aka Scarlet Bugler

Mimulus (Monkeyflowers) Mimulus aurantiacus (yellow) (+ host plant for butterflies)

Mimulus cardinalis (red, likes moisture)

Trichostema lanatum (Woolly Blue Curls) (difficult)

Trichostema 'Cuesta Ridge' (slightly easier)

^{* =} not native to California

Fairy Duster (red spikey flowers also attract Orioles) Calliandra californica

(native to the CA deserts) (also host plant for Marine Blue butterfly)

Galvezia (both red flowers) Galvezia juncea (rush like, Baja form)

Galvezia speciosa (winds through plants, fences)

Arctostaphylos (Manzanita) faves: A. 'Howard McMinn' and A. 'Lester Rowntree' (many species/sizes to choose from; blooms early for hummers; attracts tiny insects for feeding nestlings)

Ribes Ribes speciosa (Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry) (deciduous)

R. aureum, R. malvaceum, and other Ribes.

Zauschneria California Fuchsia (blooms into fall), many selections.

Gardening for Butterflies

Mexican Sunflower * (Annual. a FAVE! Grow from seed @ May 1; Tithonia (nectar only)

very drought tolerant once established; blooms thru Oct.)

Verbena (nectar only) Verbena bonariensis*, or Verbena 'De La Mina' selection

Erysimum (nectar only) Erysimum capitatum (Western Wallflower), and others.

Monardella (nectar only) Many species; very fragrant. Good nectar for bees/butterflies.

Deerweed (nectar + food; short-lived perennial) Lotus scoparius

Buckwheats (nectar + food) Eriogonum fasciculatum (California Buckwheat)

> Eriogonum cinereum (Ashyleaf Buckwheat) Eriogonum crocatum (Conejo Buckwheat)

Eriogonum grande var. rubescens (Red Buckwheat)

Eriogonum parvifolium (Coast Buckwheat)

Lessingia filaginifolia (upright form, also host plant)

or Lessingia filaginifolia 'Silver Carpet' (compact; nectar only, but very attractive to small butterflies)

Mimulus Mimulus guttatus (riparian; food plant for Common Buckeye)

Ceanothus (nectar + food) Ceanothus 'Yankee Point' (nectar only, mounding ground cover)

Ceanothus spinosus (also host plant for Pale Swallowtail)

Ceanothus leucodermis (host plant for PS, Ceanothus Silk Moth)

Monarchs specifically: Asclepias fascicularis (Narrowleaf Milkweed, native to LA)

Asclepias currassavica * (Brazilian Milkweed)

Cheeseweed* (weed!), Hollyhock*, mallows, native thistles Painted Ladies specifically:

American Lady specifically: Gnaphalium canescens ssp. microcephyllum (Feltleaf

Everlasting); also Gnaphalium bicolor

For a full listing of what plants are eaten by butterflies in Southern California, log onto: http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabala/Gardens.htm