

5C Program

Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program



9 Find Native Plants in Your Area

The USDA has excellent online guidance for finding plants native to your state and even your county. The following tutorial includes screen shots to help you use their website to identify suitable plants for your project. You may want to visit a nearby native plant nursery to see what's available. If no native plant nursery is nearby, you'll have to look up what is available in your area with this database.

Always avoid invasive plants. Some of these, such as periwinkle (*vinca minor* or *major*), English ivy, and Yellowflag iris may be sold at your local nursery. For more information, visit the California Invasive Plant Council's website: http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant_profiles/.

Tutorial Directions & Related Information	What To Look For OR What You'll See
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Go online to the USDA PLANTS Database at: plants.usda.gov2. In the upper left hand corner click on "Advanced Search". (For better viewing, the left navigation bar has been cropped from the rest of the screen shots.)	 A screenshot of the USDA PLANTS Database homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for "Ten Spiders CDs -Midnight", "ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departn", and "plants.usda.gov/java/". The main header features the USDA logo and "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service". Below the header is a banner with images of various plants. A search interface is displayed, with a "Search" button and options for "Name Search", "Scientific Name", "State Search", "Advanced Search", and "Search Help". The URL "plants.usda.gov/java/" is shown in the address bar, along with "You are here: Home/". A sidebar on the right contains the text: "The PLANTS Database provides information on the vascular plants, mosses, ferns and lichens of the U.S. and its territories." and a "Plant of the Week" section.
<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. We're going to pick and choose a few different items on the "Advanced Search and Download" web page. Not all search options need attention. For any of these scroll menus, you may have to click outside the box (in white space) to get your choice to "stick". Start by scrolling down under "1. Distribution" to "County Distribution" and choose your county. In this example, we chose California: Trinity.	<p>1. Distribution</p> <p>PLANTS Floristic Area or Not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AnyPLANTS Floristic Area--North America--Lower 48 U.S. States--Alaska--Canada <p>Note: PLANTS Floristic Area or Not cannot be used with the next two search boxes.</p> <p>State and Province include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AnyU.S. States--Alabama--Alaska--Arizona--Arkansas <p>Note: County results are added to State and Province results. See About the Advanced Search and Download for details.</p> <p>County Distribution (Select a maximum of 256) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">California:SutterCalifornia:TehamaCalifornia:TrinityCalifornia:TulareCalifornia:TuolumneCalifornia:Yosemite

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4. Scroll down under "2. Taxonomy" to "National Common Name" and click the checkbox to the right that says "Display"

National Common Name include: Display
Wild cards are permitted.

5. Scroll down under "3. Ecology" to "Duration" and choose "Perennial"

3. Ecology

Duration include: Any
Annual
Biennial
Perennial

6. Go to the next item under "3. Ecology" to "Native Status" and choose "-- L48 Native"

3. Ecology

Duration include: Any
Annual
Biennial
Perennial

Growth Habit include: Any
Forb/herb
Graminoid
Lichenous

Native Status include: Any
Native to PLANTS Floristic Area
--North America Native
--L48 Native
--AK Native
--CAN Native

7. Scroll down (or up) to the "Display Results" button and click on it.

Display Results

Review Selections or Sort Report

Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B

8. A list (partially shown here) of all plants native to Trinity County in California with their common names is generated:

Scientific Name

Abies lowiana
Abies magnifica
Acer circinatum
Acer glabrum
Acer glabrum var. torreyi
Acer macrophyllum
Achillea millefolium
Achillea millefolium var. occidentalis

Common Name

Sierra white fir
California red fir
vine maple
Rocky Mountain maple
Torrey maple
bigleaf maple
common yarrow
western yarrow

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9. To narrow the search to certain types of plants, like shrubs and trees, click on the “Back” button or back arrow of your internet browser (see next step & figure).

Selections that might be appropriate to plant in a rain garden or your landscape area are:

- Forb/herb (flowering plants that aren't grasses, sedges, & rushes)

Welcome to the PLANTS Da × Ten Spiders
← → ⌂ plants.usda.gov/java/
USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

- Graminoid (grasses, sedges, & rushes)
- Shrub
- Subshrub
- Tree
- Vine

10. Scroll down to “3. Ecology” and “Growth Habit”.

For this example, choose “Forb/herb”. (To choose more than one selection at a time in any of these lists, hold down the “Ctrl” button on your computer while scrolling and clicking. Once you're done selecting, you can double check your selections by letting go of the Ctrl button and scrolling around to see if more than one selection is highlighted.)

3. Ecology

Duration	include: Any Annual Biennial Perennial
Growth Habit	include: Any Forb/herb Graminoid Lichenous
Native Status	include: Any Native to PLANTS Floristic Area --North America Native --L48 Native --AK Native --CAN Native

11. Your previous choices should still be selected. Scroll down to “Review Selections or Sort Report” button in the middle or bottom of the page and click this to see what criteria you've entered so far.

Display Results

Review Selections or Sort Report

Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B

12. After you click, you'll see all your criteria listed.

Review Selections or Sort Report

Search and display criteria are listed below. Review your selections, a options if you plan to Display Report. Or, Modify Selections to change

Items Selected for Part A: PLANTS Core Data

1. Distribution

include: California:Trinity

2. Taxonomy

include:
include: Accepted Names and Synonyms

Common Name

include:

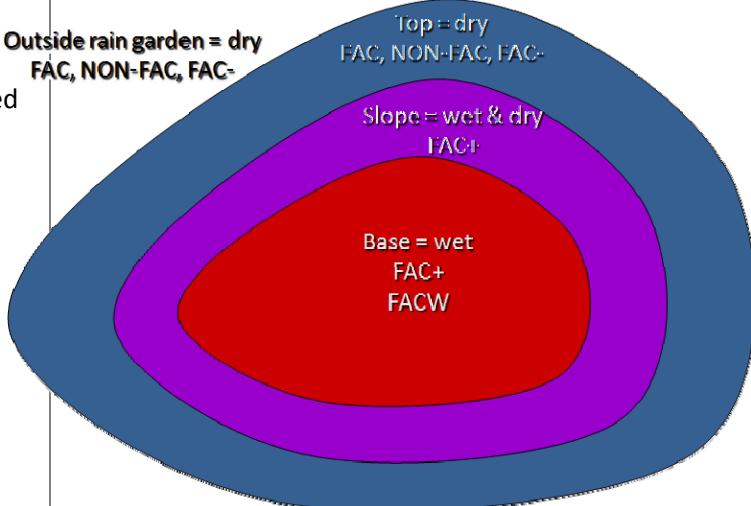
3. Ecology

include: Perennial
include: Forb/herb
include: L48 Native

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13. Now click the “Display Results” button at the bottom of this page.	<p style="text-align: right;">Display Results Review Selections or Sort Report</p> <p>Display Results runs the entire search, Parts A and B</p>																
14. This list (partially shown) is narrowed to native, perennial flowering plants in Trinity County in California.	<table><thead><tr><th style="text-align: left;">Scientific Name</th><th style="text-align: left;">Common Name</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td><i>Achillea millefolium</i></td><td>common yarrow</td></tr><tr><td><i>Achillea millefolium</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i></td><td>western yarrow</td></tr><tr><td><i>Aconitum columbianum</i></td><td>Columbian monkshood</td></tr><tr><td><i>Aconitum columbianum</i> ssp. <i>columbianum</i></td><td>Columbian monkshood</td></tr><tr><td><i>Actaea rubra</i></td><td>red baneberry</td></tr><tr><td><i>Actaea rubra</i> ssp. <i>arguta</i></td><td>red baneberry</td></tr><tr><td><i>Adonis amurensis</i></td><td>American trailplant</td></tr></tbody></table>	Scientific Name	Common Name	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	common yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	western yarrow	<i>Aconitum columbianum</i>	Columbian monkshood	<i>Aconitum columbianum</i> ssp. <i>columbianum</i>	Columbian monkshood	<i>Actaea rubra</i>	red baneberry	<i>Actaea rubra</i> ssp. <i>arguta</i>	red baneberry	<i>Adonis amurensis</i>	American trailplant
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15. To narrow your search to find plants appropriate for different moisture zones, scroll to “4. Legal Status” and look for “National Wetland Indicator Status” as follows: Click the back button on your browser twice to the “Advanced Search and Download” page. Scroll to “4. Legal Status” and under “National Wetland Indicator Status”. Holding down the Ctrl button throughout, choose “-- FACW (Facultative Wetland)”, then scroll down and click on “-- FAC+ (Facultative +)”. The different moisture zones of a rain garden (base, slope, top) can be correlated to National Wetland Indicator Status ¹ as shown in this rain garden diagram:	<p>National Wetland Indicator Status include: --FACW+? (Possibly Facultative Wetland+) --FACW (Facultative Wetland) --FACW? (Possibly Facultative Wetland) --FACW- (Facultative Wetland-)</p> <p>National Wetland Indicator Status include: --FACW+? (Possibly Facultative Wetland+) --FACW (Facultative Wetland) --FACW? (Possibly Facultative Wetland) --FACW- (Facultative Wetland-)</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the moisture zones of a rain garden. It features three concentric ellipses. The innermost ellipse is red and labeled "Base = wet FAC+ FACW". The middle ellipse is purple and labeled "Slope = wet & dry FAC+". The outermost ellipse is blue and labeled "Top = dry FAC, NON-FAC, FAC-". Above the ellipses, the text "Outside rain garden = dry FAC, NON-FAC, FAC-" is written.</p>																

¹ Per conversation with Rob Emmanuel, Ph.D. Clean Water Services in Hillsboro, OR



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Links to Plants Native to Your County

We've done *some* of the sorting for you. The links below will give you a list of perennial plants native to your county and will indicate whether they are a forb/herb (flowering plants that aren't grasses, sedges, and rushes), graminoids (grasses, sedges, & rushes), tree, shrub, subshrub, or vine. Wetland status is indicated in the list, but has not been narrowed to any particular status (i.e. FAC+, FAC, etc). Even if you are looking in your county, it is important to keep in mind your elevation, aspect (how much shade the area will get), and other factors unique to your home's location that will affect your plants and trees.

Del Norte: <http://tinyurl.com/6vqk42f>

Humboldt: <http://tinyurl.com/c46nbuz>

Mendocino: <http://tinyurl.com/ctu4l62>

Siskiyou: <http://tinyurl.com/77vjcj9>

Trinity: <http://tinyurl.com/6pz3tym>



Bibliography

Tutorial created from USDA PLANTS Database website: <http://plants.usda.gov/>

Photo Credits

All figures except rain garden in step 15 are screenshots of the USDA PLANTS Database website: <http://plants.usda.gov/>.

Rain garden figure in step 15 based on graphic from Candace Stoughton.

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