



## *Encelia californica*, COAST SUNFLOWER

The largest grower of California native plants in the state, Tree of Life Nursery has been located on the historic Rancho Mission Viejo in San Juan Capistrano for over 20 years. Largely a wholesale nursery, the *Roundhouse Plant Store* is open to the public Fridays year-round and Saturdays in fall and spring. For those interested in learning more, we offer a large selection of books on the California region regarding landscaping and horticulture, natural history, conservation, and more. The nursery's catalog, "Plants of El Camino Real," is a beautifully arranged collection of information about the plants we grow, with helpful hints for landscapers and gardeners looking for the right plant for the right place. Come experience Tree of Life for yourself!

### COMPANION PLANTS

*Artemisia californica*  
*Baccharis pilularis consanguinea*  
*Cleome isomeris*  
*Eriogonum fasciculatum*  
*Mimulus aurantiacus*  
*Opuntia littoralis*  
*Opuntia prolifera*  
*Rhus integrifolia*  
*Salvia apiana*  
*Salvia mellifera*  
*Sambucus mexicana*  
*Yucca whipplei*

Coast Sunflower is a mounding shrub found on coastal bluffs and foothills below 2,000 feet from Santa Barbara to Baja, and on several of the Channel islands. Growing quickly to 3 to 5 feet high and wide, it is an important member of the coastal sage scrub and chaparral communities. It produces masses of two-inch sunflowers in spring and summer. It is easy to grow in full sun and well-drained soil near the coast, and in partial shade inland. Water once a month in summer. To stimulate new growth, cut back the entire plant by one-third in late fall. Coast Sunflower performs nicely as a bank cover, on slopes, for erosion control, in the middle of mixed borders, and provides wildlife habitat. It reseeds easily and combines nicely with *Ceanothus*, *Salvia*, *Artemisia*, *Mimulus*, *Eriogonum* and *Penstemon*.

PLANT PROFILES

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