



HUMBOLDT BOTANICAL GARDEN

Eureka, California

Welcome to the Lost Coast Brewery Native Plant Garden at the Humboldt Botanical Garden!

It is February 26, 2015 and the HBG Lost Coast Brewery Native Plant Garden (LCBNPG) is beginning to wake up from its winter slumber with new foliage, texture and bloom. This garden was first planted in 2007-2008, and since then has been steadily growing in stature and diversity, with over 100 species now represented. Please note that this is a seasonal update. The bloom of native plants can be short and unpredictable. We will provide additional updates to mark the seasonal changes so please return to our website for updates.

During late winter, most of the LCBNPG plants begin to emerge from a semi-dormant state and show signs of new growth. This is a time of uncertain weather and gradually increasing day length. For most natives, new growth will only resume with the onset of longer days and warmer, drier soils. New flowers begin to appear in the LCBNPG as early as January, for example in the manzanitas and gooseberries. Cooler, wetter weather will delay new growth and flowering for most plants, while drier and warmer weather results in an earlier bloom and growth cycle. Except for new plantings, the LCBNPG does not receive any supplemental irrigation and must rely entirely on rainfall. No fertilizers are used in the LCBNPG.

Although there is not a lot of flowering going on at this time of the year, there are a few California native plants in bloom, including **Pacific mist manzanita** (*Arctostaphylos* 'Pacific Mist'), **Louis Edmunds manzanita** (*Arctostaphylos bakeri* 'Louis Edmunds'), **Dr. Hurd manzanita** (*Arctostaphylos manzanita* 'Dr. Hurd'), **golden currant** (*Ribes aureum*), **sierra gooseberry** (*Ribes roezlii* var. *cruentum* 'Dixie Glade'), **western coltsfoot** (*Petasites frigidus* var. *palmatus*), **pink flowering currant** (*Ribes sanguineum glutinosum*), and the annual wildflower **meadowfoam** (*Limnanthes douglasii*).

Later this year as spring turns to summer, east of the viewing plaza look for the large white "fried egg" flowers of **Matilija poppy** (*Romneya coulteri*), and the bright pinks and magentas of the annual wildflower **farewell to spring** (*Clarkia amoena*). Also visible will be the pale blue daisy-like flowers of **California aster** (*Aster chilensis*), the red tubular flowers of two forms of **California fuchsia** (*Epilobium canum*), pink blooming heads of **dune buckwheat** (*Eriogonum latifolium*), and the bright yellow flowers of **coastal California poppy** (*Eschscholzia californica* var. *maritima*) and **beach evening primrose** (*Camissonia cheiranthifolia*).

On the west side of the native plant garden in late spring and summer look for blooms of **California rose** (*Rosa californica*), and the red-orange **western columbine** (*Aquilegia formosa*) growing around the small mounds of newly introduced **Fort Bragg manzanita** (*Arctostaphylos nummularia*). Near the top of the LCBNPG, you might also encounter the large, waxy yellow flowers on some of the newly established **California fremontia** (*Fremontodendron californicum*), or the beautiful blue blooms of **California lilac** (*Ceanothus thrysiflorus* 'Skylark') and **foothill penstemon** (*Penstemon heterophyllus*).

We are continuing to work to fill in unplanted areas of the LCBNPG by adding new and interesting California natives, as well as more structure and interest. The year 2014 saw the placement of numerous large driftwood logs in the coastal section of the LCBNPG, and installation of over 280 new plants representing over 20 species new to the LCBNPG. For 2015, large rock features are planned to be integrated into several more areas. Because the garden changes dramatically throughout the seasons, we invite you to return during the spring, summer, and fall months to enjoy the beauty and progression of growth, flowering, and diversity of plant textures.

---Mark Moore, Volunteer Curator, LCBNPG

For more information call our Garden staff at (707) 499-3133 or send an email to hbgf@hbgf.org.