

Did you know...?

CALIFORNIA FOLIAGES



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California foliage offer a vast range of interesting varieties. Their generous bunch sizes offer excellent value, extra-long vase life, interesting textures and a wide variety of colours for all kinds of design work.

All California foliage are field-grown, and some of them are harvested from “wild” trees, bushes and hedges and traditionally they have had no fixed grading standards. Today, the best growers in California have developed grading standards and harvesting techniques to increase the stem count per bunch and provide the florist with the maximum usable material. “Design

Ready” and “Bouquet” grades are available in many of these products and assure a fixed stem count and stem length, facilitating design work and costing. All “Design Ready” products are sleeved making them a potential cash and carry item as well.

Another important factor that sets the best growers apart is the care they take during their growing, harvesting and post harvest treatments. Strict temperature controls during packing and shipping and special production techniques helps to eliminate seasonal spring time “soft tips”, enabling these growers to offer year round production with a consistent quality.



Myrtle

“Long” Myrtle has become a staple in the floral industry due to its rich green foliage and delicate scent. With over 30 years of experience, Mellano and Co. is well known as the largest myrtle grower in the world. Strict grading and harvest techniques ensure the maximum usable stems per bunch for the florist. Special production processes help to eliminate “soft tips” during the summer months and allow them to offer a consistent, high quality product year round.

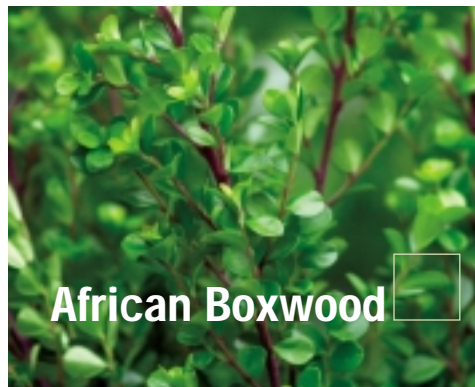
Available year round

Grading:

“Design Ready”: 60cm - 20 stems,
bottom of the stems is defoliated

Long: 90cm - 600 grams

Extra Tall: 150cm - 7 to 9 stems



African Boxwood

This beautiful foliage has grown enormously in popularity over the last few years. African Boxwood is a very hardy, slow growing foliage which must be produced with supports to ensure strong, straight stems. It has dark green, dense foliage with a lot of shine. The leaves are between one and two centimeters and the woody stems are red and supple.

Available year round

Grading:

One grade: 80cm - 450 grams



Rhamnus

Variegated Rhamnus, commonly known as “Italian Buckthorn”, is a tall round leafed foliage with striking green and cream variegation. This year at the Society of American Florists convention, Mellano and Co.’s Rhamnus won the Blue Ribbon award for the best in class for decorative foliage!

Available August to June

Grading:

Bouquet: 65cm - 10 stems

Tall: 90cm - 6 plus stems

Extra Tall: 120cm - 4 to 5 stems



Silver Dollar Eucalyptus

Silver Dollar Eucalyptus is a favorite of the Koala Bear in its native Australia. Commercially produced in California, bunches are generous and full, and the flexible thin stems with heart shaped leaves add lots of movement and versatility to this variety.

Available August to May

Grading:

“Design Ready”: 65cm - 20 stems

Regular: 70cm - 450+ grams

Extra Tall: 130cm - 5 stems

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▼ The variety we know as “Baby Euc” is actually a cultivar called Baby “Blue” Eucalyptus which was developed in California in the early 1980’s. This variety is commercially produced for the floral industry and the more advanced growers harvest only the straighter lateral stems leaving the mature stems, that are heavily branched at the tips, in the field. The strict grading and harvesting processes utilized by these growers provides the maximum usable material per bunch for the florist. Baby Euc is also widely used as a glycerin preserved foliage and is available in a wide variety of colours.

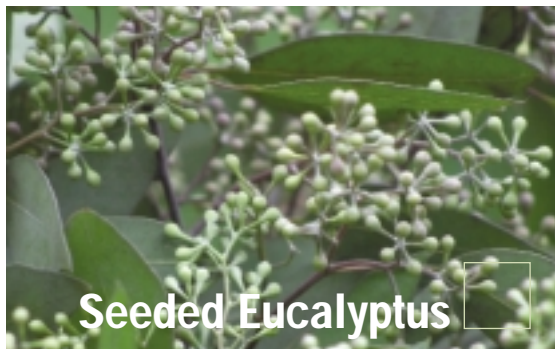
Available year round

Grading:

“Design Ready”: 60cm - 20 stems,
bottom of the stems is defoliated

Regular: 80cm - 450 grams

Extra Tall: 100cm - 3 stems



▲ Seeded or “Flatberry” Eucalyptus has become an extremely popular variety due to its cluster of peppercorn shaped seeds (the young flower buds) and oval shaped leaves. This variety of Eucalyptus is “foraged” from wild trees and not actually commercially produced. There are a number of slightly different cultivars and you may often see a mixture of different leaf and seed types depending on the harvest area and the time of year. Due to the high demand at the beginning of the season, Seeded Euc is often shipped in late July with smaller immature seeds. The best mature production starts in late August and early September. It can be dyed in a range of seasonal colors.

Available August to February

Grading:

“Design Ready”: 65cm - 10 stems

Regular: 65cm - 500 grams

Extra: 80cm - 900 grams

California Novelty Foliages

These interesting novelty foliages are just some of the dozens of varieties in commercial production in California, and they are as varied as they are versatile. With broad ranges of color, structure and texture, their generous and dependable bunch sizes along with their long lasting qualities make them an important part of a well-rounded foliage assortment.



▶ Part of the Acacia family (mimosa), Fern Leaf Acacia has a distinct grayish green color and small, soft, miniature fern like leaves, giving it a slightly fluffy texture. Native to Australia, it is also called “Acacia Baileyana”. Small yellow flowers appear in the spring.

Available September to March

Grading:

One grade: 70cm - 10 stems

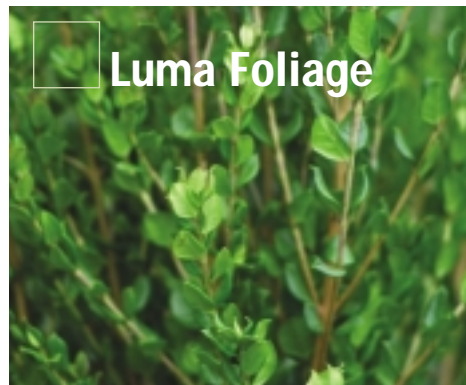


▶ This Australian native is a member of the melaleuca family. The bright green foliage is extremely long lasting, and its angular shaped leaf is equidistant along the flexible stem adding a unique look to floral work.

Available October to June

Grading:

One grade: 70cm - 450 grams



▶ Gaining in popularity, the production of Luma is rapidly increasing in California. Used as an alternative to Myrtle, its dark green foliage has a slightly heart shaped leaf that becomes reddish at the tip of the stem.

Availability September to June

Grading:

One grade: 80cm - 450 grams

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▶ Part of the melaleuca family, Honey Bracelet is highly underrated as a floral green. It is a fast growing foliage with fine crowded dark grass like leaves, and adds a touch of airy softness. It is harvested into generous 1lb bunches with many stems.

▶ Grevillea is an Australian native that is part of the protea family, which contains hundreds of varieties. The Ivanhoe variety has deeply divided green foliage with a bronze flush when young and is extremely long lasting. Small red toothbrush flowers appear most of year.

▶ Similar in structure to long myrtle, miniature myrtle, or Myrtle Compacta, has smaller leaves and shorter stem length. This variety is not as hardy as long myrtle and proper post harvest care is taken by the better growers to avoid leaf "shattering".

Availability year round

Grading:
One grade: 80cm - 500 grams
(lots of stems)

Available June to March

Grading:
One grade: 55cm - 10 stems

Available September to May

Grading:
"Design Ready": 60cm - 20 stems
Regular: 80cm - 450 grams
(very generous stem count)



Honey Bracelet



**Grevillea
Ivanhoe**



Mini Myrtle

SIERRA

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