# KEY BY FLOWER COLOR PLANT ID KEY (TO FAMILY AND SOMETIMES SPECIES) FOR ARCHES NATIONAL PARK

Key © Alicia Lafever

# **GYMNOSPERMS - EVERGREEN TREES**

- Leaves opposite or in whorls, evergreen scale-like leaves Cupressaceae (Cypress)
- 2. Leaves spirally arranged, needles in groups of 2 Pinaceae (Pine)

## **GYMNOSPERMS - EVERGREEN SHRUBS**

1. Leaves are reduced to small triangular teeth at joints, green jointed stems, shrublike – **Ephedraceae (Jointfir)** 

## **DECIDUOUS TREES**

#### **Green flowers**

- 1. Flowers borne in catkins, 0 petals, 0-4 sepals
  - A. flowers greenish, yellow; 0 petals, 0-4 sepals; Male (staminate) flowers and female (pistillate) flowers on the same tree. Staminate flowers have 0-4 sepals, pistillate flowers have no sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Betulaceae (Birch)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals, 4 sepals; Male (staminate) flowers and female (pistillate) flowers on the same tree; leaves alternate and simple **Moraceae (Mulberry)** *Morus alba*
  - C. flowers with 0 petals, 4 sepals; Male (staminate) flowers and female (pistillate) flowers on different trees; leaves alternate and simple **Moraceae (Mulberry)** *Morus rubra*
  - D. flowers greenish, yellow; 0 petals, 0 sepals; Male (staminate) flowers and female (pistillate) flowers on separate; leaves alternate and simple –
     Salicaeae (Willow)
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 2-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals, 4-5 greenish yellow sepals; leaves opposite and compound **Aceraceae (Maple)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals, borne in axillary clusters, yellow or yellow-green sepals (generally 4); leaves alternate and simple **Elaeagnaceae** (Oleaster)
  - C. flowers with 0 petals, shrublike, 2 to 8 greenish, yellow sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Fagaceae (Beech)**
  - D. flowers with 0 petals, 4 yellow to whitish lobed sepals; leaves opposite and

- compound Oleaceae (Olive)
- E. flowers with 0 petals; 4-8 green sepals; flowers borne in clusters; leaves alternate and simple **Ulmaceae (Elm)**

# White, Cream flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 4 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals, 4 yellow to whitish lobed sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Oleaceae (Olive)**
- 2. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 united white petals, 5 united sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Bignoniaceae (Catalpa)**
  - B. flowers with 5 white or pale pink petals, 5 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Fabaceae (Pea)** *Robinia pseudoacacia*
  - C. flowers white to lavender or pink, flowers borne in elongated clusters, leaves scale-like, alternate **Tamaricaceae (Tamarisk)**

#### Yellow flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 2-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals, 4-5 greenish yellow sepals; leaves opposite and compound **Aceraceae (Maple)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals, borne in axillary clusters, yellow or yellow-green sepals (generally 4); leaves alternate and simple **Elaeagnaceae** (Oleaster)
  - C. flowers with 0 petals, shrublike, 2 to 8 greenish, yellow sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Fagaceae (Beech)**
  - D. flowers with 0 petals, 4 yellow to whitish lobed sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Oleaceae (Olive)**

#### Pink flowers

- 1. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 white or pale pink petals, 5 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Fabaceae (Pea)** *Robinia pseudoacacia*
  - B. flowers white to lavender or pink and fragrant, flowers borne in elongated clusters, leaves scale-like, alternate **Tamaricaceae (Tamarisk)**

# **Purple, Lavender flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers white to lavender or pink, flowers borne in elongated clusters, leaves scale-like, alternate **Tamaricaceae (Tamarisk)**

#### **SHRUBS**

## **Green flowers**

1. Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves alternate

# and simple - Asteraceae (Sunflower)

- 2. Flowers with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple —**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 2 to 8 greenish, yellow sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Fagaceae (Beech)**
  - C. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 sepals; staminate and pistillate flowers; plants parasitic on branches of trees and shrubs; without chlorophyll; fragile-jointed with swollen jointed nodes; leaves leathery (often scale-like), opposite and simple **Viscaceae (Mistletoe)**
- 3. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals -
  - A. flowers with 4 or 5 whitish green petals, distinct, or absent; 4 or 5 united sepals; flowers grow in clusters in the angle between the leaf and the stem; leaves alternate and simple; 3-8 feet tall **Rhamnaceae** (Buckthorn) Rhamnus betulifolia

#### **Brown flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple —**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 4 yellowish, brownish sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Rosaceae** (**Rose**) *Cercocarpus*
- 2. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals -
  - A. flowers with 4 or 5 whitish green petals, distinct, or absent; 4 or 5 united sepals; flowers grow in clusters in the angle between the leaf and the stem; leaves alternate and simple; 3-8 feet tall **Rhamnaceae**

## White, Cream flowers

- 1. Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves alternate and simple **Asteraceae (Sunflower)**
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves, branches, and fruits covered with dense long white hairs; leaves bluish, alternate and simple **–Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)** *Ceratoides lanata*
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid whitish sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum bicolor* (leaves basal/alternate, simple; flowers white to pink or rose); *Eriogonum corymbosum* (leaves alternate/basal, simple; flowers white, suffused with pink, red, or yellow); *Eriogonum leptocladon* (leaves alternate and simple, flowers yellow or white often suffused with pink); *Eriogonum microthecum* (leaves alternate and simple, flowers white or suffused with pink)
- 3. Flowers with 4 petals, 4 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 distinct small white petals in terminal cymes; 4 very small sepals; leaves opposite and simple; not commonly seen. Cornaceae (Dogwood) Cornus sericea var. sericea

- B. Flowers with 4 white clawed petals, 4 sepals; leaves opposite and simple Saxifragaceae (Saxifrage) Fendlera rupicola
- 4. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals -
  - A. flowers with 4 or 5 whitish green petals, distinct, or absent; 4 or 5 united sepals; flowers grow in clusters in the angle between the leaf and the stem; leaves alternate and simple; 3-8 feet tall **Rhamnaceae** (**Buckthorn**) *Rhamnus betulifolia*
  - B. Flowers with 5 (4) white petals often smaller than the sepals, 5 sepals, mostly petaloid; leaves alternate and simple **Saxifragaceae (Saxifrage)** *Ribes inerme*
- 5. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 white, cream, yellow, or pink petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Amelanchier*, *Holodiscus*, *Petrophytum*, *Physocarpos*, *Purshia*
  - B. flowers with 5 pink (rarely white) petals, sepals 5; leaves alternate and compound **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Rosa woodsii*

## Yellow flowers

- 1. Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves alternate and simple **Asteraceae (Sunflower)**
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple —**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 4 yellowish, brownish sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Cercocarpus*
  - C. flowers with 0 petals, 4 yellow sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Coleogyne ramosissima*
  - D. flowers yellow with 0 petals, 5 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Fabaceae (Pea)** *Parryella filifolia*
  - E. flowers with 0 petals; 2 to 8 greenish, yellow sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Fagaceae (Beech)**
  - F. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid whitish sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum* corymbosum (leaves alternate/basal, simple), *Eriogonum leptocladon*
  - G. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 sepals; staminate and pistillate flowers; plants parasitic on branches of trees and shrubs; without chlorophyll; fragile-jointed with swollen jointed nodes; leaves leathery (often scale-like), opposite and simple **Viscaceae (Mistletoe)**
- 3. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 yellow petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Anacardiaceae (Cashew)** some *Rhus aromatica*
  - B. flowers with 5 yellow petals, 5 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Anacardiaceae (Cashew)** *Rhus glabra*, some *Rhus aromatica*, and *Toxicodendron rydbergii* rarely simple

- C. flowers with 5 white, cream, yellow, or pink petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Amelanchier*, *Holodiscus*, *Petrophytum*, *Physocarpos*, *Purshia*
- 4. Flowers with 6 petals
  - A. Flowers with 6 yellow petals, usually 6 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Berberidaceae (Barberry)**

## Pink flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 3-6 petaloid sepals; **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum bicolor* (shrub; leaves basal/alternate, simple; flowers white to pink or rose); *Eriogonum corymbosum*: shrubs or subshrubs; flowers white, suffused with pink, red, or yellow; leaves alternate/basal, simple; *Eriogonum leptocladon*: shrubs, leaves cauline, simple, woolly leaves; flowers yellow or white often suffused with pink; *Eriogonum* microthecum: shrubs, woolly leaves; leaves alternate and simple; flowers white or suffused with pink
- 2. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals -
  - A. Flowers with 5 united petals; 5 small sepals; flowers tubular and flare open at the mouth; flowers solitary or in pairs; leaves oval, opposite and simple **Caprifoliaceae (Honeysuckle)**
  - B. flowers with 5 white, cream, yellow, or pink petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Amelanchier*, *Holodiscus*, *Petrophytum*, *Physocarpos*, *Purshia*
  - C. flowers with 5 pink (rarely white) petals, sepals 5; leaves alternate and compound **Rosaceae (Rose)** *Rosa woodsii*

# **Purple, Lavender flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. 5 purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves narrow, opposite and simple Lamiaceae (Mint) Poliomintha incana

## **Red flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid whitish sepals; leaves alternate/basal and simple **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum* corymbosum

## **SUBSHRUB**

#### **Green flowers**

- 1. Flower with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple **–Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
- 2. Flowers with 4 petals
  - A. flowers with 4 lobed funnelform greenish-yellow petals, 4-8 lobed sepals, minute or lacking; leaves whorled and simple **Rubiaceae (Madder)** Galium multiflorum

#### **Brown flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple **–Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid brownish-whitish sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum jonesii*

# White, Cream flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid sepals **Polygonaceae** (**Buckwheat**)– *Eriogonum jonesii* (leaves alternate, simple; brownishwhitish sepals); *Eriogonum corymbosum*: shrubs or subshrubs; flowers white, suffused with pink, red, or yellow; leaves alternate/basal, simple; *Eriogonum ovalifolium* (flowers white, cream, yellow or suffused with pink, red, or purple; woolly leaves; leaves basal and simple)
- 2. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 white to cream petals, 5 sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Polemoniaceae (Phlox)** *Leptodactylon watsonii*

#### Yellow flowers

- flowers appear to be a single flower, but is composed of several flowers; ray flowers yellow or lacking; leaves alternate and simple – **Asteraceae** (Sunflower) - some *Gutierrezia*, some *Haplopappus*, some *Perityle*, some *Xlyorhiza*
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple **–Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid sepals;— **Polygonaceae** (**Buckwheat**)— *Eriogonum corymbosum* (shrubs or subshrubs; flowers white, suffused with pink, red, or yellow; leaves alternate/basal, simple); *Eriogonum ovalifolium* (flowers white, cream, yellow or suffused with pink, red, or purple; woolly leaves; leaves basal and simple)
- 3. Flowers with 3 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 distinct petals, (the upper 2 pink or pink purple petals usually free, the lower one forming a yellow keel and often fringed, the petals are usually joined to the stamens; 5 distinct sepals, the 2 inner ones larger and often petaloid (the 3 outer sepals are usually green and the other inner ones are petal-like), flowers in racemes, several-flowered; milky stems; thorny; leaves alternate and simple **Polygalaceae (Milkwort)** *Polygala subspinosa*
- 4. Flowers with 4 petals
  - A. flowers with 4 lobed funnelform greenish-yellow petals, 4-8 lobed sepals, minute or lacking; leaves whorled and simple **Rubiaceae (Madder)** *Galium multiflorum*

#### Pink flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid sepals; Polygonaceae (Buckwheat) – Eriogonum corymbosum (shrubs or subshrubs; flowers white, suffused with pink, red, or yellow; leaves alternate/basal, simple); Eriogonum ovalifolium (flowers white, cream, yellow or suffused with pink, red, or purple; woolly leaves; leaves basal and simple)
- 2. Flowers with 3 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 distinct petals, (the upper 2 pink or pink purple petals usually free, the lower one forming a yellow keel and often fringed, the petals are usually joined to the stamens; 5 distinct sepals, the 2 inner ones larger and often petaloid (the 3 outer sepals are usually green and the other inner ones are petal-like), flowers in racemes, several-flowered; milky stems; thorny; leaves alternate and simple **Polygalaceae (Milkwort)** *Polygala subspinosa*
- 3. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 small typically pink, tubular united petals, 5 sepals; leaves appear clustered; leaves alternate and simple Boraginaceae (Borage): Tiquilia

# **Purple, Lavender flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid sepals; flowers white, cream, yellow or suffused with pink, red, or purple; woolly leaves; leaves basal and simple **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum ovalifolium*
- 2. Flowers with 3 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 distinct petals, (the upper 2 pink or pink purple petals usually free, the lower one forming a yellow keel and often fringed, the petals are usually joined to the stamens; 5 distinct sepals, the 2 inner ones larger and often petaloid (the 3 outer sepals are usually green and the other inner ones are petal-like), flowers in racemes, several-flowered; milky stems; thorny; leaves alternate and simple **Polygalaceae (Milkwort)** *Polygala subspinosa*

#### Red flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid sepals;— **Polygonaceae** (**Buckwheat**)— *Eriogonum corymbosum* (shrubs or subshrubs; flowers white, suffused with pink, red, or yellow; leaves alternate/basal, simple); *Eriogonum ovalifolium* (flowers white, cream, yellow or suffused with pink, red, or purple; woolly leaves; leaves basal and simple)

# **CACTUS**

1. flowers with numerous petals; showy; red, pink, purple, or yellow; sepals and stamen; petaloid sepals; no leaves; spines — **Cactaceae (Cactus)** 

# **SPOROPHYTES (Spore-bearing)**

- 1. Stems typically hollow, jointed, ribbed longitudinally; leaves whorled, small, scalelike, microphyllous **Equisetaceae (Horsetail)**
- 2. Plants with scaly or hairy, creeping rhizomes; leaves coiled in the bud forming fiddleheads, leaves simple or compound, often hairy or scaly **Polypodiaceae (Fern)**

## PARASITIC HERBS LACKING CHLOROPHYLL

 Fleshy purplish, brownish, or yellowish white stems, leaves alternate, reduced and scalelike, 5 lobed united tubular purplish, reddish, or yellowish petals with an upper and lower lip, 5 lobed united sepals – Orobanchaceae (Broomrape)

# **GRASSES AND GRASS-LIKE HERBS (SOME OF THE MONOCOTS)**

- Leaves simple, linear, sometimes reduced to bladeless sheaths, stems can have edges (*Scirpus* has rounded stems); petals and sepals lacking or reduced to bristles; the spike of reduced flowers form a spikelet; grows in wet or moist soil – Cyperaceae (Sedge)
- 2. Stems not jointed; leaves sheathing, alternate or all basal; flowers with 3 petals, 3 sepals, membranous, greenish or brownish; stamens 6 (rarely 3), 1 pistil **Juncaceae (Rush)**
- 3. leaves mainly basal, linear, sheathing at the base; flowers terminal spike; 3 greenish petals; 3 greenish or purplish sepals; the sepals and petals not well differentiated; perianth of 3+3 tepals; stamens commonly 6, 1 pistil; *Triglochin maritima* perianth greenish-yellow **Juncaginaceae (Arrowgrass)**
- 4. Leaves alternate, simple, 2-ranked, stems round, often with hollow internodes, swollen nodes; flowers individually small and inconspicuous; no petals, no sepals, typically 3 stamens (rarely 2 or 6); each flower has 2 bracts forming a spikelet **Poaceae (Grass)**
- leaves alternate, long, linear, flat, sheathing; flowers densely crowed in terminal spikelike inflorescences; perianth lacking (0 petals, 0 sepals), 2-5 stamens; unisexual, pistillate and staminate spikes look like a hot-dog-ona-stick; fruits: achene or nutlet; semiaquatic or aquatic -Typhaceae (Cattail)

#### **HERBS**

#### **Green flowers**

- 1. Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves alternate and simple **Asteraceae (Sunflower)**
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 0-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 5 sepals; 3 conspicuous green or red to purple bracts; flowers in axillary clusters; leaves alternate and simple -Amaranthaceae (Amaranth) Amaranthus blitoides

- B. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple —**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
- C. female (pistillate) flowers and male (staminate) flowers; 0 petals; 0-8 sepals; green, brown, white, or yellow; *Euphorbia fendleri:* leaves opposite and simple; other *Euporbiaceae*: flowers with 0 petals; sepals either 0 or 3 to 8 lobed; leaves alternate and simple **Euphorbiaceae** (Spurge)
- D. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid white, yellow, green, pink, or red sepals, small; some stems have swollen nodes; leaves alternate/basal and simple -**Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum alatum* (yellowish, green), *Polygonum lapathifolium* (green, white, or pink), *Rumex hymenosepalus* (pink), and *Rumex venosus* (red)
- E. flowers with 0 petals; 5 whitish green sepals which come to a point; lance-shaped leaves; leaves alternate and simple **Santalaceae (Sandalwood)**
- 3. Flowers with 3 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 brownish, purple, green or yellowish green petals (free or united, one petal differing from the other two in form, size, and coloration, often forming a lip or spur), 180 degree twist in the flower causing the upper petal to look like the lower one; 3 sepals; sepals either green and sepaloid or colored and petaloid; leaves often sheathing, parallel veined; monocot; leaves alternate and simple **Orchidaceae (Orchid)**
- 4. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 lobed white to green petals marked with green dots; flowers solitary or in cymes; 4 lobed sepals; leaves in whorls of 4 and simple; white margins on the leaf edges **Gentianaceae (Gentian)** Swertia albomarginata
  - B. flowers with 4 lobed funnelform greenish-white or cream petals; 4-8 lobed sepals, minute or lacking; leaves whorled and simple **Rubiaceae** (**Madder**) *Galium triflorum*
  - C. flowers with 4 or 5 united tubular red, green, or pink or purple petals; 4 or 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves alternate and simple –
     Scrophulariaceae (Figwort) Castilleja, Cordylanthus wrightii
- 5. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 to numerous small (1/8" wide) pale greenish/white tubular partly united petals borne in clusters; 5 parted sepals; reddish stems; leaves opposite or whorled and simple **Apocynaceae (Dogbane)** *Apocynum cannabinum*
  - B. flowers with 5 united yellow, white, green, or pink; 5 sepals; petals and sepals are folded down; 5 erect, colored corona hoods on top; leaves opposite and simple **Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed)**

## **Brown flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 0-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple —**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. female (pistillate) flowers and male (staminate) flowers; 0 petals; 0-8

- sepals; green, brown, white, or yellow; *Euphorbia fendleri:* leaves opposite and simple; other *Euporbiaceae*: flowers with 0 petals; sepals either 0 or 3 to 8 lobed; leaves alternate and simple **Euphorbiaceae (Spurge)**
- 2. Flowers with 3 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 brownish, purple, green or yellowish green petals (free or united, one petal differing from the other two in form, size, and coloration, often forming a lip or spur), 180 degree twist in the flower causing the upper petal to look like the lower one; 3 sepals; sepals either green and sepaloid or colored and petaloid; leaves often sheathing, parallel veined; monocot; leaves alternate and simple **Orchidaceae (Orchid)**

# White, Cream flowers

- 1. Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Asteraceae (Sunflower)**
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 0-8 sepals
  - A. female (pistillate) flowers and male (staminate) flowers; 0 petals; 0-8 sepals; green, brown, white, or yellow; *Euphorbia fendleri:* leaves opposite and simple; other *Euporbiaceae*: flowers with 0 petals; sepals either 0 or 3 to 8 lobed; leaves alternate and simple **Euphorbiaceae** (**Spurge**)
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 4-5 white, pink, or purple united tubular petaloid sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Nyctaginaceae** (Four O'Clock)
  - C. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid whitish, pinkish, or purplish sepals; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum gordonii, Eriogonum inflatum, Eriogonum wetherillii*
  - D. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid white, yellow, green, pink or red sepals, small; some stems have swollen nodes; leaves alternate/basal and simple -**Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum alatum* (yellowish, green), *Polygonum lapathifolium* (green, white, or pink), *Rumex hymenosepalus* (pink), and *Rumex venosus* (red)
  - E. flowers with no petals, 4-5 white petaloid sepals; leaves opposite and compound **Ranunculaceae (Buttercup)** *Clematis liqusticifolia*
  - F. flowers with 0 petals; 5 whitish green sepals which come to a point; lance-shaped leaves; leaves alternate and simple **Santalaceae (Sandalwood)**
- 3. Flowers with 3 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 large white petals, 3 white or green sepals; petals in multiples on stalk with flowers oriented in a downward direction; leaves basal and simple; leaves parallel veined; monocot **Agavaceae (Agave)**
- 4. Flowers with 3-8 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 to 8 small to medium white, pink, or purple petals oriented in an upward or outward direction; 3 sepals (commonly petaloid); leaves basal and simple; leaves parallel veined; monocot **Liliaceae (Lily)**
- 5. Flowers with 4 petals, 4-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 white, cream, yellow or purple petals; 4 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Brassicaceae (Mustard)** some *Descurainia* (cream to yellow), and *Nasturium officinale*: white, rarely with purplish veins

- B. flowers with 4 white small to medium petals (not papery), 4 sepals, leaves basal and alternate; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Brassicaceae (Mustard)** *Draba cuneifolia*
- C. flowers with 4 white, yellow, pink or purple small to medium petals (not papery); 4 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Brassicaceae (Mustard)**
- D. flowers with 4 lobed white to green petals marked with green dots; flowers solitary or in cymes; 4 lobed sepals; leaves in whorls of 4 and simple; white margins on the leaf edges **Gentianaceae (Gentian)** *Swertia albomarginata*
- E. flowers with 4 white, yellow, or pink large papery clawed petals; 4 sepals; lower leaves can be opposite or basal; leaves alternate and simple-Onagraceae (Evening-Primrose)
- F. flowers with 4 united tiny white petals, 4 united tubular sepals; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Plantaginaceae (Plantain)**
- G. flowers with 4 lobed funnelform greenish-white or cream petals; 4-8 lobed sepals, minute or lacking; leaves whorled and simple **Rubiaceae** (Madder) Galium triflorum
- 6. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 or 5 united lobed white to pink or rose petals in cymes; flowers tubular expanding at end, 4 or 5 lobed sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Gentianaceae (Gentian)** *Centaurium*
- 7. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals (0-5 sepals in Apiaceae)
  - A. flowers with 5 to numerous small (1/8" wide) pale greenish/white tubular partly united petals borne in clusters; 5 parted sepals; reddish stems; leaves opposite or whorled and simple **Apocynaceae (Dogbane)** *Apocynum cannabinum*
  - B. flowers with 5 bluish-white tube-shaped partly united petals borne in terminal clusters; 5 parted sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Apocynaceae (Dogbane)** *Amsonia tomentosa*
  - C. flowers with 5 united yellow, white, green, or pink; 5 sepals; petals and sepals are folded down; 5 erect, colored corona hoods on top; leaves opposite and simple –Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed)
  - D. flowers with 5 united small yellow, pink, white, or red, or purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple (sometimes lower leaves opposite in *Cryptantha*) **Boraginaceae (Borage)** *Crytantha*, *Cynoglossum*, *Heliotropium*, *Lappula*, *Lithospermum*
  - E. flowers with 5 white or pink petals; 5 sepals, 4-10 stamens; leaves opposite and simple **Caryophyllaceae (Pink)**
  - F. flowers with 5 united funnelform white, blue, lavender, purple or rose petals; 5 separate sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Convolvulaceae (Morning Glory)**
  - G. flowers with 5 blue, purple, pink, white, yellow or inconspicuous petals distinct or lower 2 united; 5 sepals united; leaves alternate and compound – Fabaceae (Pea)
  - H. flowers with 5 united purple, blue, or white petals, not papery; 5 united sepals; flowers grouped in S-shaped cymes, rarely solitary; leaves alternate

- and simple (the lower leaves sometimes opposite in *Phacelia*) **Hydrophyllaceae (Waterleaf)**
- I. flowers with 5 united blue, purple, or white petals; 5 sepals; leaves opposite and simple Lamiaceae (Mint)–Hedeoma drummondii, Marrubium vulgare
- J. flowers with 5 united tubular white (or less often bluish or pink) petals; 5 lobed sepals, flowers in cymes; leaves opposite and simple –
   Polemoniaceae (Phlox) Phlox austromontana
- K. flowers with 5 united petals; 5 lobed sepals; flowers are funnelform, scarlet, lavender, blue, white, yellow, or pink; leaves alternate and simple –
   Polemoniaceae (Phlox) Gilia
- L. flowers with 5 white or cream (less commonly pink or blue tinged) petals with spurs colored like the sepals; 5 sepals; leaves basal and alternate, compound **Ranunculaceae Buttercup** Aquilega micrantha
- M. flowers with 5 united tubular white to violet or yellowish funnelform petals (some are ill-scented and open in the evening); 5 lobed tubular sepals; large leaves; leaves alternate and simple— **Solanaceae (Potato)**
- N. flowers with 5 petals; 5 sepals or lacking; petals can be yellow, white, or purple; petals and sepals are distinct; individual flowers are small and grouped in compound umbels; leaves basal and compound Apiaceae (Carrot)

## Yellow flowers

- flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves basal in a rosette and simple; flowers yellow, leaves opposite and simple (*Flaveria*, *Thelesperma*); flowers yellow, leaves opposite and compound (*Bidens* frondosa); or leaves alternate and simple – Asteraceae (Sunflower)
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 0-8 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 2-5 small green, yellow, or brown sepals; leaves bluish, alternate and simple —**Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot)**
  - B. female (pistillate) flowers and male (staminate) flowers; 0 petals; 0-8 sepals; green, brown, white, or yellow; *Euphorbia fendleri:* leaves opposite and simple; other *Euporbiaceae*: flowers with 0 petals; sepals either 0 or 3 to 8 lobed; leaves alternate and simple **Euphorbiaceae** (**Spurge**)
  - C. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid white, yellow, green, pink or red sepals, small; some stems have swollen nodes; leaves alternate/basal and simple -**Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum alatum* (yellowish, green); *Eriogonum inflatum* (leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette, flowers whitish, yellow); *Polygonum lapathifolium* (green, white, or pink), *Rumex hymenosepalus* (pink), and *Rumex venosus* (red)
- 3. Flowers with 2-5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. Flowers with 2 to 5 yellow petals, 5 green sepals, leaves basal and alternate; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette Ranunculaceae Buttercup Ranunculus testiculatus
- 4. Flowers with 3 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 brownish, purple, green or yellowish green petals (free or

united, one petal differing from the other two in form, size, and coloration, often forming a lip or spur), 180 degree twist in the flower causing the upper petal to look like the lower one; 3 sepals; sepals either green and sepaloid or colored and petaloid; leaves often sheathing, parallel veined; monocot; leaves alternate and simple – **Orchidaceae (Orchid)** 

- 5. Flowers with 4 petals, 2-4 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 white, yellow, or pink small to medium petals (not papery); 4 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Brassicaceae (Mustard)**
  - B. flowers with 4 white, cream, or yellow petals; 4 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Brassicaceae (Mustard)** some *Descurainia* (cream to yellow), and *Nasturtium officinale* (white)
  - C. flowers with 4 yellow petals; 4 sepals; leaves alternate and compound –Capparaceae (Caper)
  - D. Yellow flowers with 4 petals, the 2 outer ones spreading at the apex, the 2 inner ones united; 2 sepals; leaves basal and alternate, compound—

    Fumariaceae (Bleedingheart)
  - E. flowers with 4 white, yellow, or pink large papery clawed petals; 4 sepals; lower leaves can be opposite or basal; leaves alternate and simple-Onagraceae (Evening-Primrose)
- 6. Flowers with 4-6 petals, 2 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4-6 yellow petals (generally 5) open only in sunshine, soon close; 2 united sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Portulaceae** (**Purslane**) **Portulacea**
  - B. flowers with 4 yellow petals; 2 sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Fumariaceae (Fumitory)**
- 7. Flowers with 5 petals, 0-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 petals; 5 sepals or lacking; petals can be yellow, white, or purple; petals and sepals are distinct; individual flowers are small and grouped in compound umbels; leaves basal and compound **Apiaceae** (Carrot)
  - B. flowers with 5 united yellow, white, green, or pink; 5 sepals; petals and sepals are folded down; 5 erect, colored corona hoods on top; leaves opposite and simple **Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed)**
  - C. flowers with 5 united small yellow, pink, white, red or purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple (sometimes lower leaves opposite in *Cryptantha*) **Boraginaceae (Borage)** *Crytantha*, *Cynoglossum*, *Heliotropium*
  - D. flowers with 5 blue, purple, pink, white, yellow or inconspicuous petals distinct or lower 2 united; 5 sepals united; leaves alternate and compound **Fabaceae (Pea)**
  - E. flowers with 5 distinct yellow, orange or bluish-purple petals; 5 distinct sepals; flowers papery and short –lived; leaves alternate and simple Linaceae (Flax)
  - F. flowers with 5 distinct yellow petals; 4-5 sepals; petaloid stamens; leaves alternate and simple **Loasaceae** (Stickleaf) *Mentzelia albicaulis*
  - G. flowers with 5 united petals; 5 lobed sepals; flowers are funnelform, scarlet,

- lavender, blue, white, yellow, or pink; leaves alternate and simple **Polemoniaceae (Phlox)** *Gilia*
- H. flowers with 5 or more yellow petals, 5 sepals, leaves basal and alternate;
   leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette Ranunculaceae Buttercup
   Ranunculus cymbalaria
- flowers with 5 red, yellow, or blue united petals; 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves opposite and simple – Scrophulariaceae (Figwort) – Mimulus
- J. flowers with 5 united tubular yellow petals; 4 or 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves alternate and simple **Scrophulariaceae (Figwort)** *Linaria dalmatica*; *Verbascum thapsum:* (leaves also basal in a rosette and simple)
- K. flowers with 5 united tubular white to violet or yellowish funnelform petals (some are ill-scented and open in the evening); 5 lobed tubular sepals; large leaves; leaves alternate and simple— **Solanaceae (Potato)**
- L. flowers with 5 unequal petals, yellow, purple veined and commonly purple dorsally, the lowermost enlarged and spurred; 5 separate sepals, distinct or nearly so; leaves alternate and simple **Violaceae (Violet)** *Viola purpurea* var. *venosa*
- M. flowers with 5 yellow petals; 5 sepals; plant lying flat on the ground, seeds with spines; leaves opposite and compound Zygophyllaceae (Caltrop) Tribulus terrestris
- 8. Flowers with 5-10 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. yellow flowers with 5-10 distinct petals; 5 sepals, numerous petaloid stamens; leaves alternate and simple **Loasaceae (Stickleaf)** –*Mentzelia albicaulis*: 5 yellow petals; *Mentzelia multiflora*: 10 yellow petals; the inner 5 somewhat shorter and narrower; *Mentzelia pterosperma*: 10 petals; *Mentzelia pumila*: 10 petals

# **Orange flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 5 petals, 3-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 distinct yellow, orange or bluish-purple petals; 5 distinct sepals; flowers papery and short –lived; leaves alternate and simple **Linaceae (Flax)** *Linum aristatum*: bright yellow or orange-yellow petals
  - B. flowers with 5 distinct orange or red petals; 3 to 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Malvaceae (Mallow)**

#### Pink flowers

- Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves alternate and simple – Asteraceae (Sunflower)
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 4-5 white, pink, or purple united tubular petaloid sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Nyctaginaceae** (Four O'Clock)
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid white, yellow, green, pink or red sepals, small; some stems have swollen nodes; leaves alternate/basal and simple –

**Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** – *Eriogonum alatum* (yellowish, green); *Eriogonum gordonii* (flowers white or tinged with pink, midrib green or purple); *Polygonum lapathifolium* (green, white, or pink); *Rumex hymenosepalus* (pink); and *Rumex venosus* (red)

- 3. Flowers with 3-8 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 to 8 small to medium white, pink, or purple petals oriented in an upward or outward direction; 3 sepals (commonly petaloid); leaves basal and simple; leaves parallel veined; monocot **Liliaceae (Lily)**
- 4. Flowers with 4 petals, 4 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 white, yellow, pink or purple small to medium petals (not papery); 4 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Brassicaceae (Mustard)**
  - B. flowers with 4 white, yellow, or pink large papery clawed petals; 4 sepals; lower leaves can be opposite or basal; leaves alternate and simple-Onagraceae (Evening-Primrose)
- 5. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 or 5 united lobed white to pink or rose petals in cymes; flowers tubular expanding at end, 4 or 5 lobed sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Gentianaceae (Gentian)** *Centaurium*
  - B. flowers with 4 or 5 united tubular red, green, or pink or purple petals; 4 or 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves alternate and simple **Scrophulariaceae (Figwort)** *Castilleja, Cordylanthus wrightii*
- 6. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 united yellow, white, green, or pink; 5 sepals; petals and sepals are folded down; 5 erect, colored corona hoods on top; leaves opposite and simple –**Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed)**
  - B. flowers with 5 united small yellow, pink, white, red or purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple (sometimes lower leaves opposite in *Cryptantha*) **Boraginaceae (Borage)** *Crytantha*, *Cynoglossum*, *Heliotropium*, *Lappula*, *Lithospermum*
  - C. flowers with 5 white or pink petals; 5 sepals, 4-10 stamens; leaves opposite and simple **Caryophyllaceae (Pink)**
  - D. flowers with 5 united funnelform white, blue, lavender, purple or rose petals; 5 separate sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Convolvulaceae (Morning Glory)**
- E. flowers with 5 blue, purple, pink, white, yellow or inconspicuous petals distinct or lower 2 united; 5 sepals united; leaves alternate and compound – Fabaceae (Pea)
- F. flowers with 5 pinkish, purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves opposite and compound; or leaves basal and opposite, compound—**Geraniaceae** (**Geranium**)
- G. flowers with 5 united petals; 5 lobed sepals; flowers are funnelform, scarlet, lavender, blue, white, yellow, or pink; leaves alternate and simple **Polemoniaceae (Phlox)** *Gilia*
- H. flowers with 5 united tubular white (or less often bluish or pink) petals; 5 lobed sepals, flowers in cymes; leaves opposite and simple –
   Polemoniaceae (Phlox) Phlox austromontana

- I. flowers with 5 lobed lavender to pink tubular petals with the corolla tube rimmed in yellow; 5 tubular lobed sepals; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Primulaceae (Primrose)**
- J. flowers with 5 white or cream (less commonly pink or blue tinged) petals with spurs colored like the sepals; 5 sepals; leaves basal and alternate, compound Ranunculaceae Buttercup Aquilega micrantha

## **Blue flowers**

- 1. Flowers with 4 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers 4 petals (2 unlike sets of 2 purple or blue petals);5 purple petaloid sepals; leaves alternate and compound **Ranunculaceae (Buttercup)** *Delphinium* (Larkspur)
- 2. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 bluish-white tube-shaped partly united petals borne in terminal clusters; 5 parted sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Apocynaceae (Dogbane)** *Amsonia tomentosa*
  - B. flowers with 5 united funnelform white, blue, lavender, purple or rose petals; 5 separate sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Convolvulaceae** (Morning Glory)
  - C. flowers with 5 blue, purple, pink, white, yellow or inconspicuous petals distinct or lower 2 united; 5 sepals united; leaves alternate and compound **Fabaceae (Pea)**
  - D. flowers with 5 united purple, blue, or white petals, not papery; 5 united sepals; flowers grouped in S-shaped cymes, rarely solitary; leaves alternate and simple (the lower leaves sometimes opposite in *Phacelia*) **Hydrophyllaceae (Waterleaf)**
  - E. flowers with 5 united blue, purple, or white petals; 5 sepals; leaves opposite and simple Lamiaceae (Mint)—Hedeoma drummondii, Marrubium vulgare
  - F. flowers with 5 distinct yellow, orange or bluish-purple petals; 5 distinct sepals; flowers papery and short –lived; leaves alternate and simple Linaceae (Flax)
  - G. flowers with 5 united tubular white (or less often bluish or pink) petals; 5 lobed sepals, flowers in cymes; leaves opposite and simple –
     Polemoniaceae (Phlox) Phlox austromontana
  - H. flowers with 5 united petals; 5 lobed sepals; flowers are funnelform, scarlet, lavender, blue, white, yellow, or pink; leaves alternate and simple **Polemoniaceae (Phlox)** *Gilia*
  - I. flowers with 5 white or cream (less commonly pink or blue tinged) petals with spurs colored like the sepals; 5 sepals; leaves basal and alternate, compound **Ranunculaceae Buttercup** *Aquilega micrantha*
  - J. flowers with 5 red, yellow, or blue united petals; 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves opposite and simple Scrophulariaceae (Figwort) Penstemon
- K. flowers with 5 lobed united tubular pale blue to purple petals, regular or slightly 2-lipped; flowers borne in long dense spikes; 5 toothed sepals, usually tubular; leaves opposite and simple **Verbenaceae (Vervain)** –

# Purple, Lavender flowers

- 1. Flowers appear to be a single flower, but are composed of several flowers; flowers can be yellow, white, purple, pink or greenish; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Asteraceae (Sunflower)**
- 2. Flowers with 0 petals, 4-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 5 sepals; 3 conspicuous green or red to purple bracts; flowers in axillary clusters; leaves alternate and simple **Amaranthaceae (Amaranth)** *Amaranthus blitoides*
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid sepals; flowers white or tinged with pink, midrib green or purple; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum gordonii*
  - C. flowers with 0 petals; 4-5 white, pink, or purple united tubular petaloid sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Nyctaginaceae** (Four O'Clock)
- 3. Flowers with 3 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 brownish, purple, green or yellowish green petals (free or united, one petal differing from the other two in form, size, and coloration, often forming a lip or spur), 180 degree twist in the flower causing the upper petal to look like the lower one; 3 sepals; sepals either green and sepaloid or colored and petaloid; leaves often sheathing, parallel veined; monocot; leaves alternate and simple **Orchidaceae (Orchid)**
- 4. Flowers with 3-8 petals, 3 sepals
  - A. flowers with 3 to 8 small to medium white, pink, or purple petals oriented in an upward or outward direction; 3 sepals (commonly petaloid); leaves basal and simple; leaves parallel veined; monocot **Liliaceae (Lily)**
- 5. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 white, yellow, pink or purple small to medium petals (not papery); 4 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Brassicaceae (Mustard)**
  - B. flowers 4 petals (2 unlike sets of 2 purple or blue petals);5 purple petaloid sepals; leaves alternate and compound Ranunculaceae (Buttercup) Delphinium (Larkspur)
  - C. flowers with 4 or 5 united tubular red, green, or pink or purple petals; 4 or 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves alternate and simple –
     Scrophulariaceae (Figwort) Cordylanthus wrightii
- 6. Flowers with 5 petals, 5 sepals (0-5 sepals in Apiaceae)
  - A. flowers with 5 united small yellow, pink, white, red or purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple (sometimes lower leaves opposite in *Cryptantha*) **Boraginaceae (Borage)**
  - B. flowers with 5 united funnelform white, blue, lavender, purple or rose petals; 5 separate sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Convolvulaceae** (Morning Glory)
  - C. flowers with 5 blue, purple, pink, white, yellow or inconspicuous petals distinct or lower 2 united; 5 sepals united; leaves alternate and compound – Fabaceae (Pea)

- D. flowers with 5 pinkish, purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves basal and opposite, compound **Geraniaceae (Geranium)**
- E. flowers with 5 united purple, blue, or white petals, not papery; 5 united sepals; flowers grouped in S-shaped cymes, rarely solitary; leaves alternate and simple (the lower leaves sometimes opposite in *Phacelia*) **Hydrophyllaceae (Waterleaf)**
- F. flowers with 5 united blue, purple, or white petals; 5 sepals; leaves opposite and simple **Lamiaceae (Mint)**–*Hedeoma drummondii, Marrubium vulgare*
- G. flowers with 5 distinct yellow or bluish-purple petals; 5 distinct sepals; flowers papery and short –lived; leaves alternate and simple – Linaceae (Flax)
- H. flowers with 5 united petals; 5 lobed sepals; flowers are funnelform, scarlet, lavender, blue, white, yellow, or pink; leaves alternate and simple **Polemoniaceae (Phlox)** *Gilia*
- I. flowers with 5 lobed lavender to pink tubular petals with the corolla tube rimmed in yellow; 5 tubular lobed sepals; leaves simple, primarily basal in a rosette **Primulaceae (Primrose)**
- J. flowers with 5 united tubular white to violet or yellowish funnelform petals (some are ill-scented and open in the evening); 5 lobed tubular sepals; large leaves; leaves alternate and simple— **Solanaceae (Potato)**
- K. flowers with 5 lobed united tubular pale blue to purple petals, regular or slightly 2-lipped; flowers borne in long dense spikes; 5 toothed sepals, usually tubular; leaves opposite and simple - Verbenaceae (Vervain) – Verbena bracteata
- L. flowers with 5 unequal petals, yellow, purple veined and commonly purple dorsally, the lowermost enlarged and spurred; 5 separate sepals, distinct or nearly so; leaves alternate and simple **Violaceae (Violet)** *Viola purpurea* var. *venosa*
- M. flowers with 5 petals; 5 sepals or lacking; petals can be yellow, white, or purple; petals and sepals are distinct; individual flowers are small and grouped in compound umbels; leaves basal and compound Apiaceae (Carrot)

## Red flowers

- 1. Flowers with 0 petals, 3-6 sepals
  - A. flowers with 0 petals; 5 sepals; 3 conspicuous green or red to purple bracts; flowers in axillary clusters; leaves alternate and simple **Amaranthaceae (Amaranth)** *Amaranthus blitoides*
  - B. flowers with 0 petals; 3 to 6 petaloid white, yellow, green, pink or red sepals, small; some stems have swollen nodes; leaves alternate/basal and simple -**Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)** *Eriogonum alatum* (yellowish, green), *Polygonum lapathifolium* (green, white, or pink), *Rumex hymenosepalus* (pink), and *Rumex venosus* (red)
- 2. Flowers with 4-5 petals, 4-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 4 or 5 united tubular red, green, or pink or purple petals; 4 or 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves alternate and simple –

# Scrophulariaceae (Figwort) - Castilleja

- 3. Flowers with 5 petals, 3-5 sepals
  - A. flowers with 5 united small yellow, pink, white, red or purple petals; 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple (sometimes lower leaves opposite in *Cryptantha*) **Boraginaceae (Borage)** *Crytantha*, *Cynoglossum*, *Heliotropium*, *Lappula*, *Lithospermum*
  - B. flowers with 5 distinct orange or red petals; 3 to 5 sepals; leaves alternate and simple **Malvaceae (Mallow)**
  - C. flowers with 5 united petals; 5 lobed united sepals; flowers are funnelform, scarlet, lavender, blue, white, yellow, or pink; leaves alternate and simple **Polemoniaceae (Phlox)** *Gilia*
  - D. flowers with 5 red, yellow, or blue united petals; 5 sepals, at least partially united; leaves opposite and simple Scrophulariaceae (Figwort) Mimulus, Penstemon