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CALIFORNIA VASCULAR PLANTS: A Numerical Conspectus at the Family Level

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There are four major groups of vascular plants – lycophytes (fern allies), ferns, gymnosperms, and flowering plants. Beside each family name is the number of genera, species, and minimum ranked taxa, reflecting the number of subspecies and varieties. As presented here, the vascular plant flora of California consists of 196 families, 1514 genera, 7225 species, and 8712 plants at the species, subspecies, and variety level. I have attempted to account for all vascular plants in California that are native or that have been knowingly or accidentally introduced and that persist without our assistance, as documented by specimens or literature. I have included plants that have not been collected in several decades and are presumably no longer extant. The new edition of The Jepson Manual and the Consortium of California Herbaria have been invaluable sources of information.

LYCOPHYTES

Isoëtaceae	1 • 6 • 6
Lycopodiaceae	2 • 2 • 2
Selaginellaceae	1 • 11 • 11

FERNS

Aspleniaceae	1 • 4 • 4
Athyriaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Blechnaceae	2 • 3 • 3
Cyathaeaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Cystopteridaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Dennstaedtiaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Dryopteridaceae	4 • 13 • 14
Equisetaceae	1 • 6 • 6
Marsileaceae	2 • 3 • 3
Nephrolepidaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Ophioglossaceae	2 • 16 • 17
Parkeriaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Polypodiaceae	1 • 5 • 5
Psilotaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Pteridaceae	10 • 38 • 44
Salviniaceae	2 • 5 • 5
Thelypteridaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Woodsiaceae	1 • 3 • 3

GYMNOSPERMS

Cupressaceae	7 • 20 • 23
Ephedraceae	1 • 9 • 9
Pinaceae	6 • 38 • 45
Taxaceae	2 • 3 • 3

FLOWERING PLANTS

Acanthaceae	3 • 3 • 3
Aceraceae	1 • 6 • 10
Acoraceae	1 • 1 • 1
Aizoaceae	14 • 25 • 26
Alismataceae	4 • 14 • 14
Amaranthaceae	6 • 26 • 26
Amoryllidaceae	8 • 65 • 77
Anacardiaceae	7 • 14 • 15
Apocynaceae	13 • 34 • 36
Apodanthaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Aponogetonaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Aquifoliaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Araceae	8 • 9 • 9
Araliaceae	2 • 2 • 3
Aristolochiaceae	2 • 5 • 5
Asparagaceae	23 • 84 • 99
Asphodelaceae	5 • 8 • 8
Avicenniaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Balsaminaceae	1 • 3 • 3
Basellaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Bataceae	1 • 1 • 1
Berberidaceae	4 • 19 • 21
Betulaceae	3 • 8 • 9
Bignoniaceae	5 • 6 • 6
Boraginaceae	15 • 156 • 182
Bromeliaceae	2 • 2 • 2
Buddlejaceae	1 • 3 • 3
Burseraceae	1 • 1 • 1
Cabombaceae	2 • 2 • 2
Cactaceae	11 • 44 • 47
Callitrichaceae	1 • 7 • 8
Calycanthaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Campanulaceae	12 • 56 • 68
Cannabaceae	2 • 2 • 3

Caprifoliaceae	4 • 19 • 23
Caryophyllaceae	27 • 122 • 137
Casuarinaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Celastraceae	5 • 8 • 10
Celtidaceae	1 • 3 • 3
Ceratophyllaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Chenopodiaceae	22 • 115 • 135
Cistaceae	4 • 9 • 11
Cleomaceae	7 • 15 • 20
Commelinaceae	2 • 4 • 4
Compositae	254 • 975 • 1186
Convolvulaceae	6 • 50 • 67
Cornaceae	1 • 6 • 7
Crassulaceae	7 • 57 • 81
Crossosomataceae	2 • 4 • 4
Cruciferae	70 • 318 • 341
Cucurbitaceae	6 • 16 • 17
Cymodeaceae †	1 • 1 • 1
Cyperaceae	19 • 234 • 246
Datisceaeae	1 • 1 • 1
Didiereaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Dipsacaceae	2 • 4 • 4
Droseraceae	1 • 9 • 9
Ebenaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Ehretiaceae	1 • 4 • 5
Elaeagnaceae	2 • 3 • 3
Elaeocarpaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Elatinaceae	2 • 7 • 7
Ericaceae	26 • 111 • 148
Eriocaulaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Escalloniaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Euphorbiaceae	11 • 70 • 72
Fagaceae	4 • 38 • 49
Fouquieriaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Francoaceae	2 • 2 • 2
Frankeniaceae	1 • 3 • 3

Garryaceae	1 • 6 • 6	Melanthiaceae	5 • 19 • 21	Rubiaceae	8 • 54 • 84
Gentianaceae	9 • 33 • 37	Menyanthaceae	2 • 2 • 2	Ruppiaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Geraniaceae	3 • 42 • 42	Molluginaceae	2 • 4 • 4	Rutaceae	4 • 5 • 5
Goodeniaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Moraceae	4 • 10 • 10	Salicaceae	2 • 41 • 43
Gramineae	124 • 551 • 607	Montiaceae	6 • 50 • 64	Sambucaceae	1 • 2 • 4
Grossulariaceae	1 • 31 • 41	Moringaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Santalaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Gunneraceae	1 • 1 • 1	Myoporaceae	1 • 5 • 5	Sapindaceae	4 • 6 • 6
Haloragaceae	1 • 6 • 6	Myricaceae	2 • 2 • 2	Sarcobataceae	1 • 2 • 2
Hamamelidaceae	2 • 2 • 2	Myrtaceae	10 • 38 • 38	Sarraceniaceae	2 • 7 • 7
Heliotropaceae	1 • 4 • 4	Namaceae	2 • 19 • 25	Saururaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Hippocastanaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Nartheciaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Saxifragaceae	16 • 63 • 66
Hippuridaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Nelumbonaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Scheuchzeriaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Hydrangeaceae	5 • 6 • 6	Nitrariaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Scrophulariaceae	40 • 332 • 427
Hydrocharitaceae	7 • 14 • 14	Nyctaginaceae	7 • 31 • 37	Simaroubaceae	2 • 2 • 2
Hydrocotylaceae	1 • 6 • 6	Nymphaeaceae	2 • 4 • 4	Simmondsiaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Hydrophyllaceae	13 • 123 • 149	Oleaceae	6 • 18 • 19	Smilacaceae	1 • 2 • 2
Hypericaceae	1 • 9 • 9	Onagraceae	9 • 151 • 206	Solanaceae	18 • 84 • 90
Iridaceae	14 • 48 • 54	Orchidaceae	11 • 37 • 40	Staphyleaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Juglandaceae	2 • 5 • 5	Oxalidaceae	1 • 15 • 16	Sterculiaceae	3 • 5 • 5
Juncaceae	2 • 78 • 88	Paeoniaceae	1 • 2 • 2	Styracaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Juncaginaceae	1 • 4 • 4	Palmae	3 • 5 • 5	Tamaricaceae	1 • 6 • 6
Koerberliniaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Papaveraceae	15 • 41 • 50	Tecophilaeaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Krameriaceae	1 • 2 • 2	Passifloraceae	1 • 4 • 4	Thymelaeaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Labiatae	35 • 159 • 189	Pedaliaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Tofieldiaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Lauraceae	4 • 4 • 5	Phytolaccaceae	1 • 4 • 4	Tropaeolaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Leguminosae	68 • 453 • 592	Pittosporaceae	2 • 5 • 5	Typhaceae	2 • 8 • 9
Lemnaceae	4 • 16 • 16	Plantaginaceae	1 • 18 • 21	Ulmaceae	1 • 6 • 6
Lennoaceae	1 • 2 • 2	Platanaceae	1 • 2 • 2	Umbelliferae	40 • 154 • 173
Lentibulariaceae	2 • 7 • 7	Plumbaginaceae	3 • 11 • 11	Urticaceae	5 • 8 • 11
Liliaceae	9 • 101 • 114	Polemoniaceae	18 • 186 • 250	Valerianaceae	4 • 10 • 12
Limnanthaceae	2 • 7 • 15	Polygalaceae	2 • 7 • 8	Verbenaceae	7 • 28 • 30
Linaceae	3 • 20 • 20	Polygonaceae	22 • 245 • 368	Viburnaceae	1 • 4 • 4
Linderniaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Pontederiaceae	4 • 6 • 6	Violaceae	1 • 25 • 38
Loasaceae	3 • 36 • 37	Portulacaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Viscaceae	3 • 9 • 17
Lythraceae	4 • 10 • 10	Potamogetonaceae	3 • 20 • 21	Vitaceae	4 • 8 • 8
Magnoliaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Primulaceae	8 • 22 • 30	Zingiberaceae	1 • 1 • 1
Malvaceae	20 • 83 • 110	Proteaceae	2 • 3 • 3	Zosteraceae	3 • 5 • 5
Martyniaceae	2 • 4 • 4	Ranunculaceae	16 • 100 • 136	Zygophyllaceae	5 • 8 • 8
Meliaceae	1 • 1 • 1	Resedaceae	2 • 5 • 5		
		Rhamnaceae	7 • 73 • 100		
		Rosaceae	48 • 212 • 274		

NUMERICAL SUMMARY

	Families	Genera	Species	Minimum Taxa
Lycophytes	3	4	19	19
Ferns	18	34	106	114
Gymnosperms	4	16	70	80
Flowering Plants	188	1438	6990	8401
Totals	213	1492	7185	8614

Data mostly from a September 2015 checklist.