

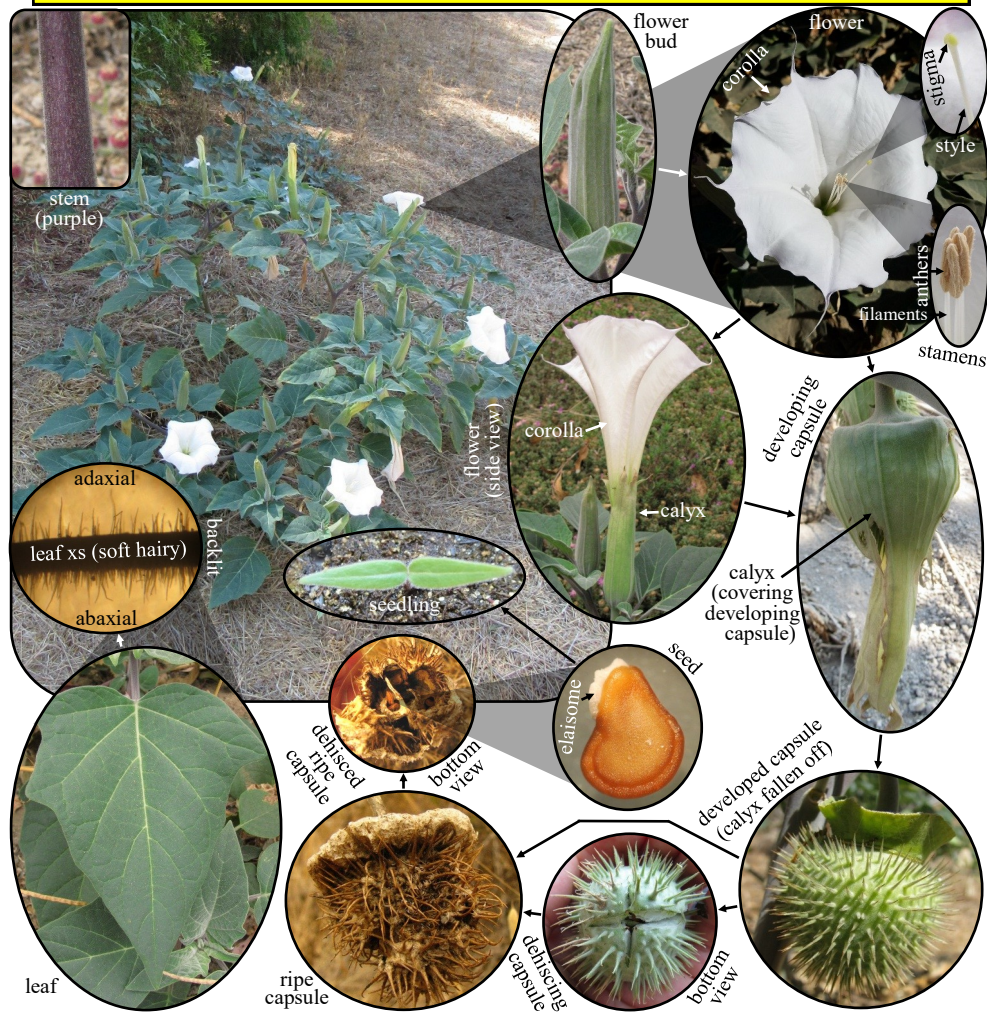
Sacred Thorn Apple (*Datura wrightii*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: April - October

Datura wrightii is generally a perennial herbaceous plant. It is found throughout the peninsula. The overall plant has a smell that is reminiscent of peanut butter. The stems are erect and covered with fine hairs. The stem color can range from a light green color to a dark purple. The leaf is ovate and can be entire or it can be shallowly lobed. The flowers are large and usually held upright. The calyx of the flower is a light green. In the early development of the fruit, the calyx encloses it until the fruit fully matures, then it drops off. The corolla is white (sometimes tinged with a light purple) and funnel-shaped. The fruit is a prickly leathery capsule that splits open along irregular valves. The seed is generally flat, tan, and the margin has a groove. The fresh seed also has a tiny white elaiosome that can help aid it in dispersal (harvester ants were observed doing this at Malaga Dunes).



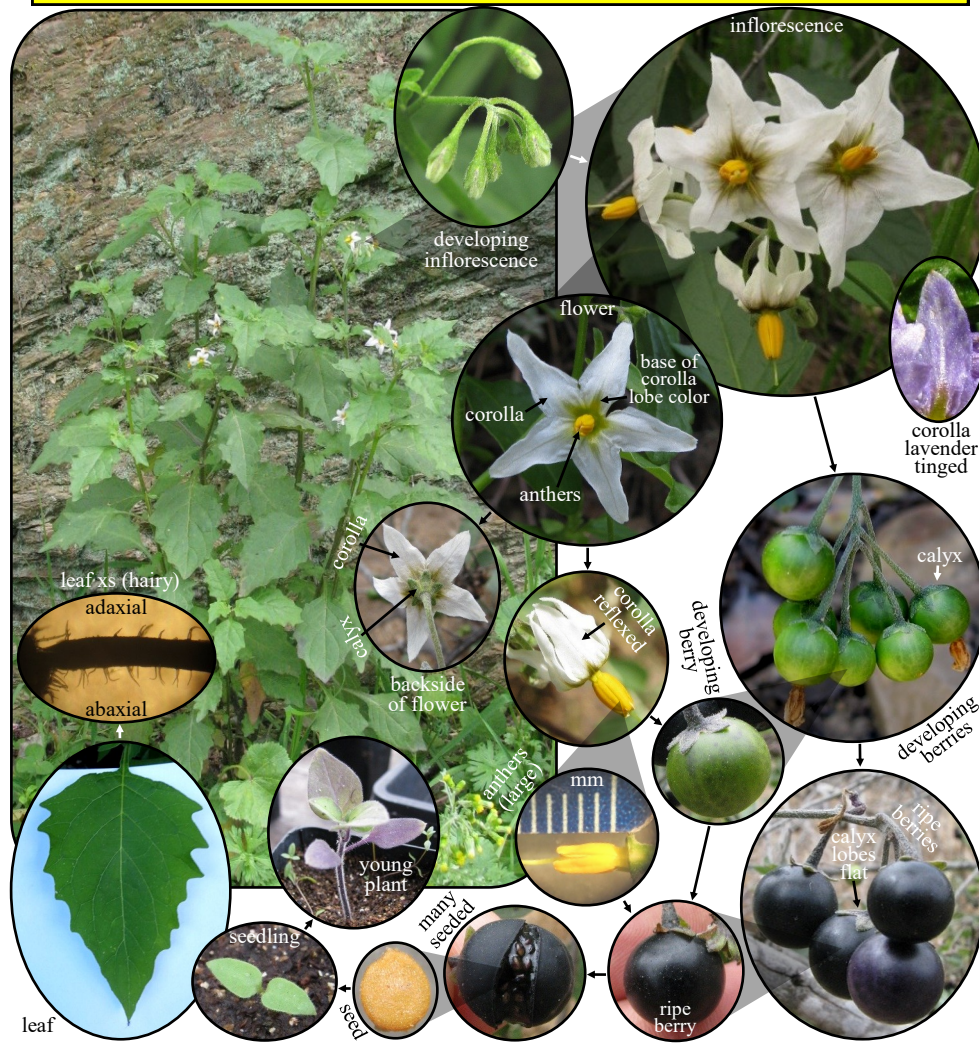
Douglas' Nightshade (*Solanum douglasii*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: May - October (sometimes flowering all year)

Solanum douglasii is a perennial herbaceous to subshrub plant. It is found throughout the peninsula. The stems are usually erect and can be covered in rough hairs. The leaf is ovate and can have margins that are entire, toothed, to somewhat wavy. The inflorescence is generally umbel-like. The flower has a small calyx that is green and cup shaped. The calyx is persistent in fruit and does not fully enclose the fruit or the base. The corolla of the flower is rotate and can range in color from white to lavender. The lobes of the corolla can be deep to shallowly lobed and the base of the lobe, near the midrib, can be a greenish yellow color. The corolla can be spreading to reflexed. The anthers are large (2.5-4 mm). The fruit is a many-seeded berry that is a purplish black color. The seed is small, somewhat flattened and tannish.



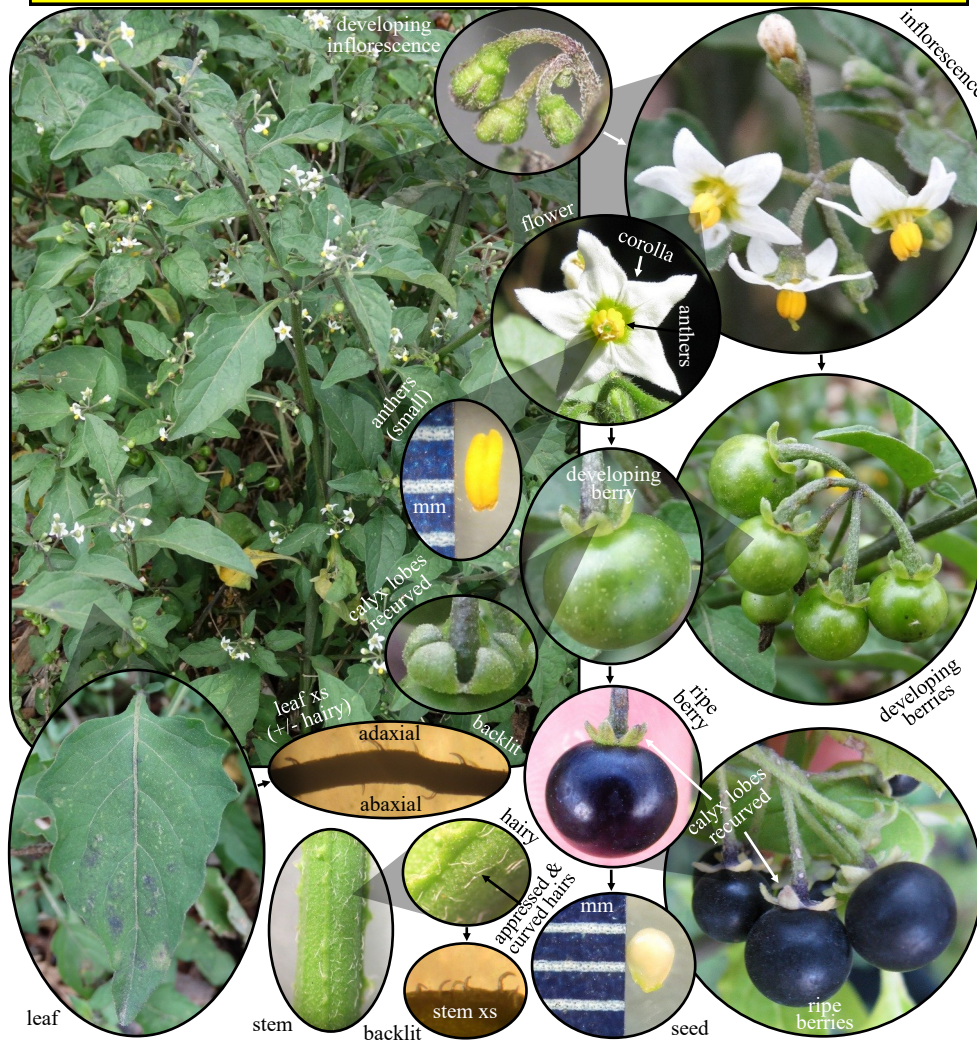
Small Flowered Nightshade (*Solanum americanum*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: April - November

Solanum americanum is an annual or perennial herbaceous plant (sometimes a subshrub). It is found throughout the peninsula often in disturbed places. The overall plant is somewhat hairy with the hairs short and appressed or curved. The overall plant is also non-glandular. The leaf is ovate and somewhat hairy (hairs appressed or curved). The leaf margin can be entire or wavy-toothed. The inflorescence can be umbel-like or raceme-like. The calyx is green, persistent in fruit, and the lobes of the calyx become recurved when in fruit. The corolla of the flower is rotate, deeply lobed, spreading to slightly reflexed, and is white (sometimes the corolla can be lavender-tinged). The anthers are small (1.4-2.2 mm). The fruit is a many seeded berry that is blackish purple. The seed is small, flat, and tannish.



California Box Thorn (*Lycium californicum*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: March - August

Lycium californicum is a perennial shrub. It is primarily found along the coastal bluffs on the peninsula. Branches are erect, spreading to drooping. Thorns are present. Lateral branches are held out at 90°. The leaf is linear to oblanceolate and generally round. The leaves can be singular or clustered. The flowers can be single or clustered along the branches. The calyx of the flower is bell-shaped, with 2 to 5 lobes (4 lobes being the most common), and is green. The calyx length is less than the corolla length. The corolla is bell-shaped and the lobes of the corolla can be reflexed or not. The corolla can be white to purple-tinged or white with purple veins. The stamens as well as the style and stigma are exerted out past the corolla. The stamens are attached near the base of the corolla tube. The fruit is a drupe that has 2 seeds. The seeds are orangish white and oblong. This plant has a CNPS rare plant rank of 4.2.



California Box Thorn (*Lycium californicum*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: March - August



some years
plants can become
abundantly covered
in fruits



California Box Thorn (*Lycium californicum*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: March - August



dormant plant
on coastal bluffs



dormant branches



dormant branch with thorns

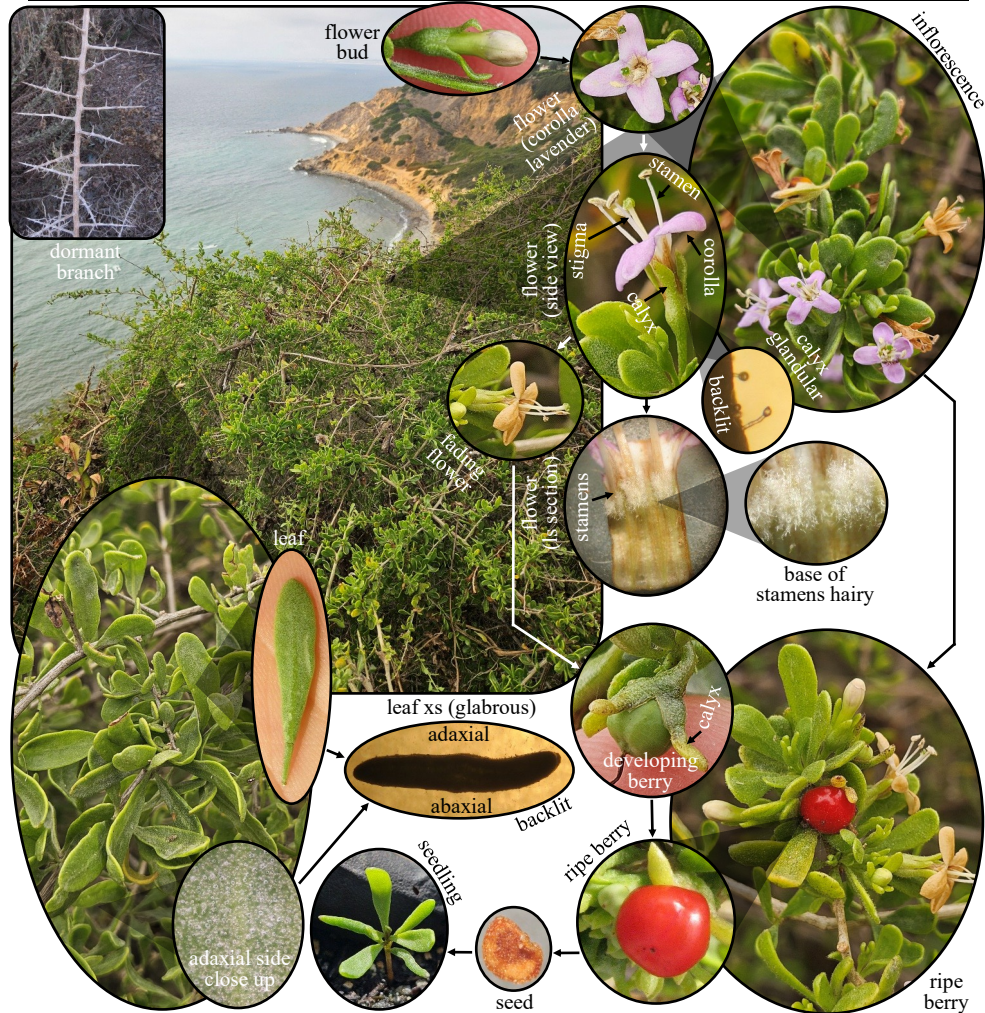
Santa Catalina Box Thorn (*Lycium hassei*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: February - June

Lycium hassei is a perennial shrub. It is found along the coastal bluffs of the peninsula. Branches are usually erect or slightly arching and rigid. Thorns are present. The leaf is spatulate to obovate, fleshy, and usually glabrous. The flowers can be single or clustered along the branches. The calyx of the flower has lobes that are reflexed, with 2 to 4 lobes (lobes long), green, and the calyx is generally equal to or greater than the corolla. The corolla is short, funnel-shaped, and light lavender to whitish. The stamens, style, and stigma of the flower are exerted out past the corolla. The stamens are hairy at the base. The fruit is a berry. Seeds are tiny, orangish to whitish, and flat. This plant is only found Santa Catalina Island (extirpated) and the Palos



Santa Catalina Box Thorn (*Lycium hassei*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: February - June

Verdes Peninsula (see Rocha & Fisher 2026 - CSULB M.S. work on *Lycium brevipes* s.l.).



dormant
plant



thorn



dormant branch
with thorns

Anderson's Thornbush (*Lycium andersonii*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: March - May

Lycium andersonii is a perennial shrub. It is found in only two locations on the peninsula. The branches are usually spreading to erect and rigid. Thorns are present. The leaves are long, thin, and are somewhat linear-oblongate. The overall plant is glabrous. The flower has a small green calyx that is cup-shaped with short lobes, and is less than the corolla. The corolla can be white to purple tinged, long, and funnel-shaped. The fruit is a firm berry that is many seeded and is red to a reddish orange color. The seed is small, whitish, and flat.



Anderson's Thornbush (*Lycium andersonii*)

Order: Solanales

Family: Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Flowers: March - May



branches



thorn



dormant
branches