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Chapter 1 : San Luis Obispo Landscaper's Distinctive Drought-Tolerant Plants

Mediterranean climates are typical of areas between and degrees latitude on the west coasts of continents. Mediterranean climates are found in California, the Mediterranean region of Europe, South Africa, Chile, and small parts of Australia.

Agaves provide drama, structure, texture and color They can be grown in the ground or a container Can go long stretches without water Considered fire-retardant Most agaves have sharp thorns or prickly-edged leaves not great for kids or pets Limited to warmer zones , unless grown in containers and given winter protection Prone to rotting " can be caused by debris in the rosette or overwatering AGAVE PICTURES Photo by: Very slow growing it can take 40 years to bloom. Purchase an older plant to enjoy its mature years. Hardy to 10 degrees F. The two species overlap habitats in Mexico and can naturally hybridize. Its striking artichoke-like, blue-gray rosettes and clumping habit earn it a prominent spot in the garden. Grows two to three feet tall and three to four feet across. If kept dry, it will tolerate 15 degrees F. If planted in the ground, it will form a clumping mound over three feet across. Noted for its wispy curled fibers that decorate the leaf margins. Hardy in Zones 9 to Its thick guttered six- to eight-foot-long leaves make it a whopper of a specimen up to 12 feet across. As with many other variegated agaves, it needs protection from sun during the hottest part of the day, especially in desert areas. Hardy to Zone 8. Its short, stiff yucca-like leaves have sharp terminal spines that can provide some unpleasant surprises for the unwary gardener. The narrow foliage provides a great texture, contrasting with bolder foliated plants, including other agaves. Grows to 18 inches wide. Hardy to 15 degrees F. The chestnut brown marginal prickles contrasted against rich green leaves make it pleasing to view, especially in a location where there is backlighting. Also sold under the invalid and rather unwieldy name of A. Planted in the ground, it will grow to two feet across and 18 inches tall, but will be somewhat smaller in a container. Very slow growing, so try to purchase a larger, older specimen. Hardy to 25 degrees F. Along with aloe and opuntia cactus, agaves add structure to the Mediterranean or the drought-tolerant garden, with the added benefit of being fire resistant. Large agaves are strong background plants, planted with smaller, slower-growing species in the foreground, but not so close to walkways that they can cause injury to passersby. Use one medium to large agave as a striking focal point in the ground or a container. Types that readily form offsets make a beautiful mass planting, useful on a steep slope where watering is difficult. Agave is a type of succulent, commonly confused with cactus. Remember the rule that all cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. The main difference between agaves and cacti is the presence of leaves, cacti do not have them, while agaves do. After the towering spires bristling with tubular blossoms are finished, the mother plant dies off. But depending on the species, new pups start to form either before or after flowering, which can be removed and put into containers of their own. How are agaves propagated? Pups can be pulled free from the parent plant to make more of a good thing. In addition to the progeny that sprout from the roots, some agaves make plantlets on their flower stalk. Both pups and plantlets can be removed and planted in their own pots. Here are some tips: Most species require bright light to retain their unique forms-especially when kept indoors Stronger light is preferable or they begin to stretch and distort from the typical rosette form In containers, watering once a week is sufficient agaves prefer to dry out between watering Pot agaves in a homemade soil of two parts sand and one part compost Fertilize once a year with compost tea Photos taken at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek, California. This article was adapted from its original version for use on the web.

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Chapter 2 : Plant Combination Ideas - Garden Style Mediterranean Garden

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Our warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters allow us to grow an eclectic selection water-wise perennials, shrubs, trees and grasses from 4 other Mediterranean zones, as well as our own California natives. At Gardens by Gabriel, Inc, harnessing the diversity and character of the Mediterranean plant palette is a passion and a specialty. We are plant collectors, propagators, seed savers, and above all, growers. With such a wide plant palette to work with, we are constantly trialing new selections and old favorites in different environments to distill the best of the best. We observe, take notes, and glean lessons from the land. Gardening is an ongoing experiment, and we strive to expand its borders with every plant we sink into the earth. Plants are our vehicle for sustainability, and thus we believe that a carefully handpicked selection of them is what truly brings your space to life. Below are the main categories we draw from to create your personal haven. We believe in taking full advantage of our wonderful year-round growing climate on the Central Coast. Ask us about the best varieties of vegetable starts, herbs, and fruit trees to get your edible paradise up and growing. The Central Coast is the perfect host for the jewel tones and undulating waves of echeverias, the undersea quality of ethereal Euphorbias, the clean geometry of dwarf aloes, and the strong, architectural lines of variegated agaves. Succulent plants have undergone a revolution in recent years, introducing amazing color morphs and compact hybrid plants perfect for small gardens. With their fascinating forms, bold colors, and diehard composition, succulents are built for the modern gardener. California Natives--Indigenous Delights California is known for its vast array of unique climates. Within a 5 hour driving radius you can be in the towering redwoods, the waves of the Pacific, the searing desert dunes, or the snow-capped sierra. The eastern part of the US has 11 climate zones, while we westerners boast 24! The Central Coast is no exception, hosting a multitude of micro-climates from the elevations of warm North County to the fog belt bluffs of the coast. Specialized communities of plants have adapted to these distinct environments over thousands of years, yielding plants are that built exactly for where we live. Native plants give our gardens a sense of connection to the indigenous surroundings, and make us feel at home. A well-planned native garden reflects our subtle seasonal changes, supports a wealth of wildlife, and contributes to the delicate ecological balance of our global environment. We are part of a very special horticultural zone indeed! The floras of South Africa, central Chile, western Australia, coastal California and the Mediterranean basin all contribute spectacular plants that are well-adapted to our soils and unique climate here on the Central Coast. Proteas--Botanical Jewels for Central Coast Gardens Named after the legendary sea god Proteus who could changed his shape at will, the family of Proteas has a surprising diversity of form, flower, and foliage across the different species. The flowers are exotic looking and come in a warm spectrum of colors and extra-terrestrial forms. All of the protea tribe appreciate well-drained soil and cool temperatures, so they grow to perfection on the fog-kissed dunes of the coast. Testimonial Mari, Nipomo, California "Gabriel and his staff are definitely five star! He first did our backyard--it was quite the challenge but he exceeded our expectations! We loved his work so much that we used him again for our front yard. Once again, we were thrilled with the results! Gabriel is very knowledgeable and you can tell that he loves what he does.

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Chapter 3 : How to Garden in a Mediterranean Climate: 14 Steps (with Pictures)

Succulents for Mediterranean Climate Gardens by Diana Morgan The author's enthusiasm for her subject is infectious. She gives tips for the successful cultivation of succulents, and information on those suitable for gardens large and small, hot, shady and frost prone, for courtyards and balconies, on types worth growing for flowers as well as.

Many succulents can be planted just about anywhere, from crafty DIY terrariums to exotic desert gardens. To help you identify your favorite desert plants, FTD created a visual compendium of the most stunning desert plants and succulents. It features real photo examples so that you can easily choose the best plants for your home and garden. Desert plants have found a place in modern home and garden design. There are many plants in the desert that can survive in a xeriscape garden or even in a glass terrarium. Thus, desert plants have become popular for landscaping because they are easy to take care of due to their drought-tolerant capabilities. Popular desert plants include the Palo Verde tree, the Queen Victoria agave, the golden poppy, and the Mexican thread grass. To help you identify the many desert plants there are, we created a compendium below of the most stunning desert plants and succulents. Desert plants can be classified into three main categories:

Succulents Did you know that all cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti? Due to their ease of care, and wide variety of shapes, sizes, and colors, the options for designing your home and garden with these trendy plants are endless. From terrariums to your garden, it seems that you can grow succulents almost anywhere. As long as you provide these drought-tolerant plants with good drainage, sandy soil, and sunshine, they will thrive for years. From the popular ghost plant, to the architectural marvel of the crassula plant, there are so many varieties to choose from.

Top 10 Most Popular Succulents

- 1. Ghost Plant** The ghost plant is probably one of the most popular succulent plants used today. Also known by its scientific name as *Graptopetalum paraguayense*, it is one of the easiest succulent plants to take care of. Depending on the level of sunlight it receives, these plants can take on various colors ranging from blue-gray to pinkish yellow. During springtime you can witness the ghost plant producing bright yellow flowers.
- Pencil Plant** A popular choice amongst modern landscapers, these succulents are widely used in drought-tolerant landscaping, or xeriscaping. Succulent stress can come in the form of many factors including the plant having too little water, being too cold, or being planted in nutrient poor soil. Gardeners commonly deprive this succulent, as well as several other types of succulents, of nutrients or water on purpose in order to encourage the plant to display its bright and showy colors. They are popular for planting in hanging baskets, which allow the long stems to drape to the ground. Colors range from green to blue green, with an ashy finish that gives the colors a muted tone. Partial sun, or brightly-lit shade is best. They make a striking addition to any xeriscape garden and thrive in hardiness zones 9 to
- When mature, the paddle plant forms a single flowering stalk from its center. Like many other succulents, the paddle plant is a monocarpic plant, which means that the plant will sprout a flower when it is about to reach the end of its lifecycle.**
- Living Stone** Living stones, known as lithops, are a prime example of evolution at its best. These succulents have evolved to seamlessly blend into their surroundings, and protect themselves from predators. Upon first glance, they look just like small stones or pebbles. However, upon closer examination, these stones are actually living plants. Originating in southern Africa, where they receive less than 2 inches of rainwater a year, these plants are well adapted to dry climates. The thick stone-shaped leaves also allow the plant to store as much water as possible. A direct product of evolution, this is truly a fascinating plant to have in your succulent collection!
- Queen Victoria Agave** The marble-like striations on the petals of this agave make it a favorite amongst modern landscapers. Scientifically known as *Agave victoria-reginae*, this agave is native to the Chihuahuan desert of Mexico. It is extremely drought-tolerant and thrives in hardiness zone 7. The spherical arrangement of the leaves allow it to funnel water down towards its root base. In the wild, the Queen Victoria agave can live up to 15 years.
- Zebra Cactus** This incredibly slow-growing plant is often compared to aloe. Its contrasting white striations against its dark green leaves makes it a popular houseplant and a trendy way to decorate your home or even office desk. It is easy to

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maintain, but keep it away from direct sunlight or deep shade. Golden Barrel The Golden Barrel cactus is fittingly named for its large, bulbous shape. Adorned with golden yellow spines, this cactus makes for quite a striking centerpiece in any desert landscape – both in the wild and in your garden! The top of the barrel cactus is where its striking flowers bloom. Once pollinated, it closes up and the seeds begin to develop into fruit, which sit on top of the cactus until pulled out. The Golden Barrel cactus is known for being slow-growing and can live for quite a long time. Upon first glance, it may seem that this cactus does not contain any spines. However, if you look closely, the fuzzy specks that adorn this cactus are actually small clusters of tiny little spines. These types of cactus spines are called glochids, and are nearly impossible to remove if caught in your clothing or skin. Bunny Ear cacti are available in both yellow and white spine varieties. Fox Tail Agave Also known as *Agave attenuata*, this agave is commonly found in desert gardens and is a popular choice amongst landscapers. The fox tail agave has a centrally curved spear, from which large green leaves emerge and curve back, resulting in a shape that looks like a large green flower. Its leaves are smooth and pliable, and unlike its other agave cousins, the leaves are completely spineless – making it a safe choice for planting in gardens. Wildflowers Desert wildflowers provide a refreshing pop of color in the dry desert landscape. Although they have adapted to survive in such harsh climates, their bloom cycles are extremely sensitive and dependent on a variety of factors including frequency of rainfall during winter, moderate temperatures, wind, and elevation. Once the flowers bloom, they will quickly spread their seeds and a sea of colorful blooms will grow for a short period of time before the plants die. In general, wildflowers are known to start flowering in early spring from February to March. Although most desert wildflowers are known to be only found in their natural habitat, there are still many species that can be adapted for the domestic garden. Popular garden wildflowers include the California poppy, the desert sage, and the winecup. Top 5 Most Popular Desert Wildflowers: It is native to the western region of the United States, from the coast of Oregon down to Baja California. Due to its popularity and how easy it is to grow, the California poppy can be found in most states in gardens, roadsides, and even empty lots. The petals of this dicot open during the day and close at night. In hotter summer regions, the flowers will die after blooming in early spring, and the plant will remain dormant for the remainder of the summer. Winecup Like the poppy, this drought-tolerant wildflower will open in the morning and close in the evening. The Winecup is a perennial that bears cup-shaped flowers that range in color from light pink to deep magenta. This wildflower will bloom from March to June and thrives in sandy or rocky soil that is well-drained. Outside of the wild, it is popularly used as a bedding plant, or for hanging baskets where its long stems can cascade over the side. One interesting fact about this plant is that it can be medicinally used as a natural pain reliever. Its long bloom time occurs from March until November, and it can often be seen on roadsides where it covers the landscape in a thick yellow blanket. It is common to see flowering buds sealed into a hard ball. This is the result of the symbiotic relationship between the desert marigold and the desert marigold moth larvae, which envelops the flower into a cocoon. Desert Sage The desert sage is one of the most beautiful desert wildflowers. With its bold blue and purple flowers and frosty gray foliage, these wildflowers truly stand out in any desert landscape. Desert sage can thrive in high heat, nutrient-poor soil, and require little watering. Because of these factors, the desert sage is not fitting for fertile soil within most garden settings. However, it is the perfect addition to a xeriscape or drought-tolerant desert garden, because it is great for attracting birds and butterflies. Whitestem Paperflower The whitestem paperflower is named for its delicate flower petals which dry into paper once the flower dies. Belonging to the same family as the daisy, this flower blooms nearly all year long from spring to fall, and thrives in hardiness zones 5-9. Its bright yellow flowers have five petals, and its stems can grow up to 12 inches tall. The whitestem paperflower is native to the southwestern United States and can be found in Southern California, Nevada, Utah, and New Mexico all the way to northern Mexico. Trees, Shrubs, and Grasses Beyond cacti, succulents, and wildflowers, the rest of the desert landscape is inhabited by trees, shrubs, and grasses. Like cacti and succulents, this subgroup of desert plants does not require much care and tends to be slow-growing. From the green Palo Verde tree, to the flowering ocotillo shrub, many of these plants are

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popular choices for desert garden landscapes. Trees play a very important role in the desert, as they are one of the tallest plant species and provide necessary shade and protection for other desert plants. It is amazing to see how such large trees have evolved to survive in the desert, with some species that can live for over years! Shrubs and grasses are suited to withstand the harsh dry winds of the desert, with some shrubs that can grow into the size of trees.

Palo Verde This popular desert tree is known for its striking green trunk and bright yellow flowers. The green trunk is due to the presence of chlorophyll. There are two common types of Palo Verde trees, the Blue Palo Verde, which has a blue-green trunk, and the Foothills Palo Verde, which has a yellow-green trunk. In the wild desert, the tree plays a key role in the procreation of new plant life as it provides necessary shade and protection for young Saguaro cacti and other vulnerable desert plants to grow. In a garden setting, the majestic Palo Verde makes for a striking focal point and is a popular choice amongst xeriscape landscapers.

Joshua Tree The Joshua tree is the largest of the yucca species, and is scientifically known as *Yucca brevifolia*. This tree is so rare that it only grows in the Mojave desert. One reason for its scarcity is that it completely relies on the female pronuba moth for survival. This fascinating tree is extremely slow-growing, and only grows about inches a year. It can take up to 60 years for a Joshua tree to mature, and it can live up to years.

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Chapter 4 : Succulents and cacti - The Arboretum

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How to get the Mediterranean look Mediterranean Garden Style, Mediterranean Plants, Mediterranean Garden Design Made famous in the countrysides of France, Greece, and Italy, Mediterranean gardens have influenced many gardeners, with their soft colors, gravel walks, brightly patterned tiles, clipped hedges, informal and drought-tolerant plantings. And not to mention the delightful scent offered by the amazing number of Mediterranean plants with scented leaves. Pleasing the eye, low-maintenance and typically water-wise, the Mediterranean garden look can be easily achieved through 9 key elements. Shaded seating areas The Mediterranean climate is so agreeable that seating areas are essential. They provide a place to unwind on a balmy summer evening or enjoy a coffee with the first rays of sunshine. However, in these sun-baked gardens, shade is vital. Pergolas are decorative structures that are ideal for providing necessary shade. They also make striking features, specifically when attractively covered with perfumed, climbing plants, which scent the evening air when you sit down and relax. Great plants to consider for pergolas: Who could resist cutting luscious grapes while sitting outside on a late summer evening? Pots and containers Terra-cotta pots and jars are a famous feature of Mediterranean gardens. Used as focal points or for container gardening, they come in all possible shapes or sizes, from the simple pot, to the large urn or classical garden vases. Select pots with a wide base to ensure they are not blown over. A potted plant has a smaller reserve of water than a plant grown in the ground. Add a glazed saucer beneath your pot to hold water on which your plant will happily draw. Gravel floor In Mediterranean gardens, where gardeners have long coped with too little water for their plants and gardens or with drought periods, lawns have been considerably reduced or even totally eliminated and replaced with paving or gravel or a combination of both. Water features Water features are a must in Mediterranean gardens to cool the air in the heat of summer. The gleam of water also adds a delightful dimension to any garden. A trickle of shallow water and a mister on the hottest days are very attractive. Whether in ornamental ponds, pools or fountains, the sight and sound of water always provides an enjoyable relief from hot, dry summers. Butterflies, bees and birds enjoy water features too! Pebbles and cobbles Cobble and pebbles can be woven into intricate designs, a lovely Mediterranean technique. These pebble mosaics have a rich history dating back to ancient times. They were used for pavements and were the earliest type of mosaic in all areas of the Eastern Mediterranean. They still can be admired in many Mediterranean towns and villages. Use stones of various colors and sizes that you may lay flat or on edge and create your own design, just like the Moors in southern Spain! Mediterranean tiles Reminiscent of the Moorish mosaic, glazed colored tiles are very decorative and may be used to decorate walls or patio floors. Bursting with color, these create lively mosaics and can be used in a wide range of climates to create dramatic color accents with their rich combinations of pattern and color. Here they beautifully brighten up the vertical surface of the risers. Here is the list of heat-loving and drought-tolerant plants, favored by gardeners and admired by onlookers. It includes a variety of fragrant herbs as scent is important in a Mediterranean garden: Versatile plant that needs no watering in summer and is highly resistant to shade and salt spray. However, they will need to be planted in pots and sheltered overwinter unless you live in a Mediterranean climate. Omnipresent of Mediterranean gardens is the Italian cypress *Cupressus Sempervirens*, a very versatile, evergreen tree that adds height and drama, provides an attractive green backdrop all year round and is also ideal for privacy. Clipped box is also currently used for low-growing hedges, providing both structure and basic ornament in all seasons. Raised beds Not only attractive, raised beds are all a fabulous opportunity for creating well-drained sites, an environment Mediterranean plants love. These raised beds can be formal or informal, dressed with gravel or mulch and even include larger boulders.

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Chapter 5 : Mediterranean Landscaping Plants - Landscaping Network

A Lovely Mediterranean Border with Lavender and Lilies of the Nile. Rich in texture and interest, this fragrant garden border features a fresh color palette of blues and purples with the intent of cooling and calming down an outdoor area overheated after a warm summer day.

Genus *Leucadendron* White Tree or Witteboom after the Silver Tree, which is in the same genus, species *salignum* like a Willow *Salix*, presumably in the shape of the leaves. *Knoppiesgeelbos* "bearing cones", "yellow bush" as for the English names. Other past Latin Names *adscendens* erect -stems, *argentea* silver -cones, *conifera* bearing cones, *diversifolia* varied leaves, *frondosum* full of leaves, *humifusum* sprawling on the ground - habit, *involucratum* with a cup of leaves - flowerhead, *nudiflorum* hairless flowers, *pallens* pale -leaves, *virgatum* branchy - habit. As can be seen from all the past scientific names, this is a complicated and varied species. *Adscendens* this is the trade name in the cut flower trade, based on the Latin name used in the s, *Clustered Euryspermum* a name coined by Richard Salisbury in , and not used since, Common Yellowbush, Goldentips, Goldtips, Goldtops Conebush the last four names are still used in the cut-flower trade, *Incisum* an old trade name, but origin unknown, Mini-tulip Conebush, Nestflower Conebush the last two referring to the cup of bracts around the flowerhead in the female, *Red Adscendens*, *Trailing Euryspermum* another Salisbury common name, *Asbos*, *Geelbos*, *Rooibos* referring to leaf colours as grey, yellow, red, *Knopbos*, *Tolbos* referring to the cones or "tops", *Kraaltolbos* why *Paddock-Top-bush* is unknown. Distribution From *Nieuwoudtville* in the north to *Grahamstown* in the east on every mountain and valley in the Cape Floral Kingdom in which *Fynbos* vegetation occurs. Widespread in all except the wettest *Fynbos* sites, also occurring in *Renosterveld* if wet enough. Uses The plant has no known herbal or medicinal uses as like all proteas they are relatively free of aromatic chemicals. Being woody and filled with tannin, they are of no culinary use. The flowerheads and cones are used in the cut flower trade, as their many trade names indicate. These two cultivars are the most sought after cut flower protea, as well as the most widely planted protea in the commercial wild-flower trade, being grown in New Zealand, Australia, Zimbabwe, Hawaii, California, Israel and France, in addition to the Cape. Sex The plants flower from April to November, but in any one place flowering lasts for only a few weeks. The sexes are separate, with male bushes and female bushes. Pollination is by small beetles, the most prominent being *Pria cinerascens*, a small black beetle. Male flowerheads are visited mainly for their pollen but also their nectar. Female flowerheads lack pollen and have only a little nectar, so are probably visited by "mistake". On the other hand, female flowerheads, with their cup of involucral bracts, provide a safe bourdoir for overnighiting. The seeds take several months to ripen, during which time the floral bracts expand to form cones. The fruit are then stored in these cones for release after a fire. However, predation of cones by larvae of beetles and moths, results in most seeds being liberated after two or three years on the bush in the absence of fire. The fruit are flat and when released paraglide in the wind until they get caught in the remains of plants or hit the ground. Fruit blow on the ground too, and tend to lodge in piles of ash against dead stems and brush. The black fruit are ideally camouflaged against this black ash. Germination occurs after the first substantial winter rains. This means that summer and autumn fires are ideal. Spring fires result in the fruit laying around all summer so that most are eaten by birds and mice before the rains. After germinating, any seedlings which have not established a deep tap root down to the water table by the beginning of summer will die of drought. Fruit dropped onto the ground when there is no fire will not be camouflaged, will stand a high chance of being eaten by mice fire kills or chases them away and will not be able to reach the water table before summer due to competition with the other living plants. As in most proteas, the "flower" colour really the colour of the leaves around the flowerhead is very variable. Typically yellow, but in some places as such as the *Cold Bokkeveld* as beautiful crimson predominates. In other areas green forms also occur. Sometimes the different color forms occur together, much like there being blue- and brown-eyed people. Fire Survival This species owes its ubiquity to its habit of surviving fires by regrowing

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from an underground rootstock. As a consequence it produces far less fruit than most other Conebushes which are killed by fire , but it means that plants we see may be hundreds of years old. A consequence of this is that the plants can be heavily picked or pruned and will produce new, long sturdy shoots from the rootstock. In veld that gets too old the plants get overshadowed by other Fynbos plants and this is a major cause of death. The Common Sunshine Conebush is at its best in frequently burned veld, when it may come to dominate the vegetation and provide large splashes of "Sunshine" in winter.

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Chapter 6 : Succulents for Mediterranean Climate Gardens by Diana Morgan (, Paperback) | eBay

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Succulents and cacti What defines a succulent or a cactus? Succulents are water-retaining plants adapted to arid climates or soil conditions. Succulent plants store water in their leaves, stems, and roots. Cacti are plants of one family, the Cactaceae. They are any of various succulent, spiny, usually leafless plants found mostly in arid, but also tropical regions. Exclusively new world plants, they range from South America to parts of Utah and Colorado. One small species, *Echinopsis chamaecereus*, is known as the peanut cactus. The species range from large and tree-like types to small globose cacti. See plant location for *Echinopsis* hybrid in the garden using Google Maps. The only cactus genus that is more confusing than *Echinopsis* is that of *Opuntia*. As a result, there is a long list of synonymous names for many of the species. Some synonyms refer to other synonyms, which in turn refer to a subspecies of some seemingly distinct species. The bulk of plants referred to as *Echinopsis* are mostly spiny, ribbed, globose plants; and the main factor that ties these plants together is their very large, showy flowers. The funnel-shaped flowers, with their hairy-wooly-scaled floral tubes, give rise to hairy, globular fruit filled with a soft, mushy pulp. The flowers seldom last more than a single day and may be diurnal or nocturnal depending on the species. *Echinopsis campylacantha* or *Echinopsis leucantha* is round, deeply lobed, with long curved dark pink and gray spines and originates in western Argentina. Triangular-lanceolate leaves are in tight rosettes up to 6 inches tall. Individual leaves are 3 inches long by 1 inch wide. Leaves are flat on top and concave on the underside and are armed with white teeth along the margins and keel. The plant freely produces offsets and can form large clumps. Spikes of orange-scarlet flowers appear in late spring. Find plant location in the garden with Google Maps. Aloe is a genus containing about species of flowering succulent plants. The most common and well known of these is Aloe vera or true aloe. Agaves are New World plants from the Americas. Aloes vary in color from grey to bright-green and are sometimes striped or mottled. Some Aloes native to South Africa are arborescent treelike. Of the more than species of Aloe, only a few have been used traditionally as an herbal medicine. Aloe vera is the most commonly used Aloe in herbal medicine. The Greeks and Romans used Aloe vera to treat wounds. In the Middle Ages, the yellowish liquid found inside the leaves was favored as a purgative. Unprocessed aloe that contains aloin is generally used as a laxative, whereas processed Aloe vera juice does not usually contain significant aloin.

Chapter 7 : Succulents for Mediterranean climate gardens / Diana Morgan | National Library of Australia

In fact, the gardens in these Mediterranean Sea cities are experiencing a climate surprisingly similar to ours here in Costa Mesa, Newport Beach, Corona del Mar and Newport Coast. These cities, all in the northern hemisphere, are connected by a Mediterranean climate.

Chapter 8 : Agave Plant Care & Best Varieties to Grow | Garden Design

While some succulents are better off left to grow in a Mediterranean climate or desert-type conditions, there are many that live and thrive in the subtropical regions of Australia - my top 10 picks are below!

Chapter 9 : Succulent Gardens | Garden Design

The Mediterranean climate is so agreeable that seating areas are essential. They provide a place to unwind on a balmy summer evening or enjoy a coffee with the first rays of sunshine. However, in these sun-baked gardens, shade is vital.