

***A Must-Have California Native Plant!***

# Elderberry

*Sambucus mexicana*



**Description:** Elderberry grows quickly and can reach between 15' – 30' in height in just a few years. Its lovely cream-colored flowers are followed by blue berries that are one of the most important fruit sources for birds in all of California.



**Light:** Full Sun / Part or Full Shade



**31** species of butterflies and moths can lay eggs on this plant.



**Featured Moth:** The **Salt Marsh Moth** can be seen in the garden from May through August. As a caterpillar, it feeds on coyote brush, then forms a chrysalis on the ground in the leaves below. You can help them by leaving the leaves in your garden!



**Keystone Plant:** This California native is a “must have” (host) plant for caterpillars, which, in turn, are the “must have” food for baby birds.

**Discover more at [BringingBacktheNatives.net](http://BringingBacktheNatives.net)**

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