A Must-Have California Native Plant!

Hummingbird Sage

Salvia spathacea



Description: True to its name, Hummingbird Sage, with its tall magenta spires of flowers, is very popular with hummingbirds. It is an excellent choice under oaks, forming a lovely evergreen mat that suppresses weeds.



Light: Full Sun / Part-Full Shade



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



Featured Moth: The Wavy Lined **Emerald Moth** has an unusual adaptation. In its caterpillar stage it camouflages itself with tiny bits of the plant it is eating, attaching them with its silk. If it moves to a different type of plant, it replaces its 'outfit' with fresh material.

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

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Images: Hummingbird Sage @ Merrick Bush; Caterpillar @ Ross Dobbs; Wavy Lined Emerald © David Bree (all Creative Commons some rights reserved (CC-BY-NC) via iNaturalist.org)

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