



# Specialty Crop Multi-State Program – Climate Ready Landscape Plants

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- **Why?** The Western U.S. is expected to experience more extreme droughts due to climate change. Low water-use plants must be supplied by growers and utilized by the landscape industry to facilitate water conservation by reducing landscape irrigation requirements.
- **How?** Researchers will create a plant trials network that assesses plant performance under different irrigation regimes. Trial methods developed in California will now be expanded to four additional western states: Arizona, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Plants irrigated at three different levels will be measured for growth and rated for aesthetic quality.
- **What?** Plant material that performs well under low-water conditions will be recommended for production and utilization. Information developed will be provided to the green industry to aid in sustainable decision-making, marketing, and business support.
- **Schedule of the project, Plot 1 (2020-2022):**
  - April-May, 2021: Plot preparation, including irrigation system setup.
  - May, 2021: Planting.
  - June to August, 2021: Establishment (the first irrigation season).
  - June to August, 2022: The second irrigation season, three deficit irrigation treatments are provided to the plants.
  - Monthly data collections include growth measurements and ratings of foliage, flowering, pest tolerance, disease resistance, vigor, and overall appearance.
  - Horticultural professionals are invited to rate the plants three times during the treatment season to supplement the monthly data.
  - Plot 2: Coming soon 2021-2023.
- Further information: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/UCLPIT/>

