Flowers for the Fog Zone

In the coastal garden, these plants are easy-care and showy over a long period, with a long season of bloom and/or handsome foliage when not blooming. Many are drought-tolerant once established and all have proven themselves to be resistant to fog-induced fungus diseases. All resist or outgrow slug damage except where noted. All are wind resistant (some of the blooms need a bit of shelter from salty wind) and most will not need staking.

**Herbaceous Perennials (and Biennials)**

*Achillea*, Yarrow, especially hybrids 'Moonshine' and 'Terra-Cotta'

*Anthemis tinctoria*, Golden Marguerite

*Anthemis cretica cupaniante*, Irish Daisy

*Astroemeria* hybrids, Peruvian Lily; hybrids are non-invasive and a wide range of colors

*Aquilegia*, Columbines

*Armeria*, Sea Thrift and *Pseudoarmeria*

*Aster* fall-blooming hybrids

*Alyssum saxatile*, Basket-of-Gold

*Bergenia crassifolia*, Elephant Ear or Pig Squeak

Campanulas (bellflowers) except *C. rapunculoides*

*Calamint (Calamintha nepeta)*

*California Fuchsia (Zauschneria, Epilobium)*

Catmint 'Walker's Low' (* Nepeta hybrid*),

*Centarea montana*, *C. dealbata*

*Crocossmia* (Montbretia) - choose non-invasive hybrids such as ‘Solfaterre’ which has bronzed foliage. ‘Lucifer’ is reasonably invasive.

Cupid’s Dart (*Catanache caerulea*)

*Dianthus*

Daylilies (slugs chew in spring)

*Erigeron karvinskianus*, Santa Barbara Daisy

*Erigeron hybrids*

*Erysimum 'Bowie's Mauve'*

*Euphorbia* - many selections reseed themselves

Fairy Wand (*Dierama*)

Foxgloves (*Digitalis*) - species and hybrids

*Gaillardia* (Blanket flower)

*Geranium* species and hybrids (Hardy Geranium)

Garden Geranium (*Pelargonium*) - Scented geraniums and Martha Washington types are best.

Zonals are prone to fungus disease that spoils flowers and foliage.

*Geum chiloense* 'Mrs. Bradshaw' (red) and 'Lady Stratheden' (soft gold)

Iceland Poppy

Jupiter’s Beard (*Centranthus ruber*)

Kaffir Lily (*Schizostylis coccinea*)

*Knautia macedonica*

Labrador violet (*Viola riviniana* ‘Purpurea’)

Lavenders

*Lithodora* ‘Grace Ward’

*Lupines* - Russell hybrids

*Lychnis coronaria*, Rose Campion

Matilija poppy (*Romneya coulten*)

Ornamental Oregano ‘Herrenhausen’

*Oenothera tetragona* 'Fireworks' and 'Youngii' (Sundrops)

Oregon Sunshine (*Eriophyllum lanatum*)

Pacific Iris Hybrids

*Potentilla* - herbaceous types

Primroses - the gaudy bedding kind

*Pulmonaria* 'Bertram Anderson', 'Trevi Fountain', 'David Ward'

Red-hot Poker (*Kniphofia*)

Salvia 'May Night'

*Scabiosa columbaria* 'Butterfly Blue'

*Scabiosa ochroleuca*

*Sedum* species and hybrids (slugs may chew emerging foliage)

Siberian Iris

*Sisyrinchium* (Blue-eyed grass/ yellow -eyed grass)

Soapwort (*Saponaria ocymoides*)

*Verbena bonariensis* (sterile hybrids are best)

**Annuals**

Sweet Alyssum

Bachelor Buttons (*Centarea cyanus*)

Borage

Calendar

California Poppies (may survive winter)

*Cerinthe major* 'Purpurascens'

Chinese forget-me-not (*Cynoglossum*)

Clarkia

Cosmos (C. *bipinnatus* hybrids)

Dame’s Rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*)

Diascia

Gazania

Godetia

Johnny-Jump-Up (*Viola tricolor*)

Lobelia (*Lobelia erinus*)

Marigold 'Lemon Gem'

Marguerites (*Argyranthemum frutescens* hybrids) - may survive mild winters

Million Bells

Nasturtiums

*Nemesia* hybrids

Shirley Poppies

Pansies - small-flowered "Violas" perform better in rain & wind; protect from slugs!

'Wave' Petunias (seem less prone to gray mold)

Sweet Peas
Foliage Plants and Clumping Grasses

Dusty Miller (*Senecio cineraria*)
- bronze form is available (reseeds with enthusiasm)

Purple Sage (*Salvia officinalis* 'Purpurascens')

Lamb’s Ears (*Stachys*):

Licorice Plant (*Helichrysum petiolare*) - gray, gold, lime green, and variegated forms available. Not hardy, but it grows fast and is easy to start from cuttings to winter over.

Scotch Moss (*Sagina subulata* 'Aurea') - golden-green groundcover, stands some foot traffic. Needs some water during dry season.

Variegated Moor Grass (*Molinia caerulea* 'Variegata')
- Deciduous, but dry seed heads last well into winter. 12-15” tall.

Blue Fescue (*Festuca*) - evergreen, 6-10” tall

Blue Oats Grass (*Helictotrichon* 'Blue Oats') - looks like a giant Blue Fescue, 18” tall and evergreen.

"Brown" Sedges *Carex buchananii*, *C. t/aegiflifera*, *C. testacea*

Feather Reed Grass (*Calamagrostis acutiflora* 'Karl Foerster') - evergreen, long-lasting flower/seed heads for winter interest. 4 to 5’ tall.

Hair Grass (*Stipa tenuissima*)

New Zealand Flax (*Phormium*) - *P. tenax* *X* *cookianum* is probably the hardiest (Rainbow or Maori series of hybrids), many are marginal in winter but make wonderful container plants.

Pheasant’s Tail Grass (*Stipa arundinacea*) - gorgeous fountain-shaped clump with orange-gold tints

Giant Hair Grass (*Stipa gigantean*)

Tall Moor Grass (*Molinia ‘Skyracer’*)

*Libertia peregrinans* - narrow, stiffly erect leaves with central orange stripe to 2’ tall; spreads to form colonies

*Libertia grandiflora* - Iris relative with sword like bright green leaves in fans and clusters to 2’ tall. Branching clusters of ¼” white flowers late spring to midsummer.

Don’t Forget Bulbs!

Crocus species and hybrids

Daffodils

Tulips (Darwin Hybrid types are most likely to return)

Bulbous Irises

Grape Hyacinths (*Muscari armeniacum*)

*Brodiaea* (*Tritelia*) 'Queen Fabiola’

Wood hyacinth (*Hyacinthoides*)

Lilies

Naked Ladies (*Amaryllis belladonna*)

Spring Snowflake (*Leucojum*)

Bugle Lily (*Watsonia*)

Siberian squill (*Scilla*)

Hardy cyclamen (*C. hederifolium*, *C. coum*)

*Colchicum*

Shorter varieties are best. Double -flowered and tall varieties tend to fall down in heavy spring rain and wind.

Plant lily bulbs on their sides to avoid rot in winter and spring rains.