

NEW PLANT MATERIALS FOR THE WEST AND SOUTHWEST

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I have been asked to discuss some plants being introduced to the nursery trade in the southwest by Monrovia Nursery Company.

Seven plants have been selected, all of them low-growing shrubs except one. Four are Junipers. Hardiness zones referred to are those used in the U.S.D.A. Plant Hardiness Map, running in degrees below zero. Zone 6 is from -10° to 0° and the other zones are in ten-degree steps so that zone 2 is from -50° to -40° .

The first of these shrubs is *Cotoneaster horizontalis* var. *perpusilla* or Ground Cotoneaster. It is a lower growing plant than the species, to about 3 feet, and has a distinct two-ranked habit of branching. This semi-evergreen shrub with pinkish flowers and red berries in fall has smaller leaves than *C. horizontalis* which turn red in fall also. It is useful as wall covering, on banks, and in rock gardens, growing well in any soil. Cold tolerance to zone 4.

Genista germanica var. *prostrata* is another bank or ground cover and the mature growth is so spiny that the plant is an effective barrier even to animals. This evergreen shrub has small entire leaves with compound spines in the axils and hairy branchlets. The yellow flowers are borne on 1 to 2-inch racemes at the ends of the shoots.

Nandina domestica var. *nana* 'Dwarf' is a very dwarf compact mound form of this familiar shrub. The leaves are three-parted, each stem holding 2 to 3 leaflets which are much broader than in the species and turn a more evenly deep red color in the cooler months. Hardy to zone 6.

Juniperus sabina 'Broadmoor' is intermediate in size between *J. horizontalis* and *J. sabina* var. *tamariscifolia*. At first prostrate, it mounds to 30 inches and reaches a diameter of 12 feet. The foliage is a soft gray-green color. Hardy to zone 3.

Juniperus sabina 'Buffalo' is spreading and similar to 'Broadmoor' in size, but a bright green color. Both of these originated in Russia. Will stand the cold of zone 2.

Juniperus horizontalis 'Webberi' is a very low mat forming bank or ground cover. It has heavy foliage with a rich green color which changes to purple or plum in the colder months. This Juniper is also useful in the foreground of a border and as an accent plant for upright types of conifers. It is hardy to zone 4.

Juniperus chinensis 'Robusta Green' has an informal upright habit of growth and is deep bluish-green in color. The heavy-textured foliage is on dense tufted branches. It is slow growing and requires no pruning. 'Robusta Green' is especially useful as a specimen, in a planter box, or in an intermediate shrub planting and is hardy to zone 4.