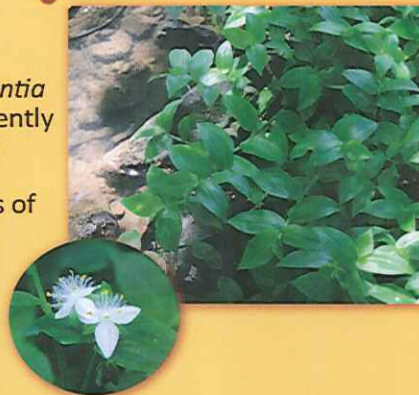
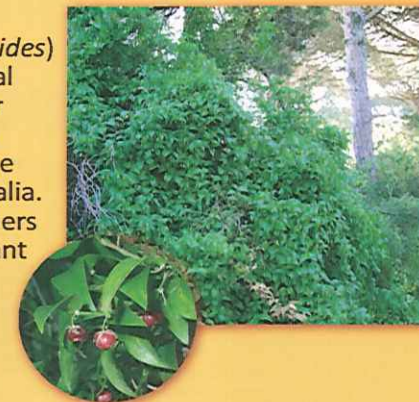


**Avoid using !**

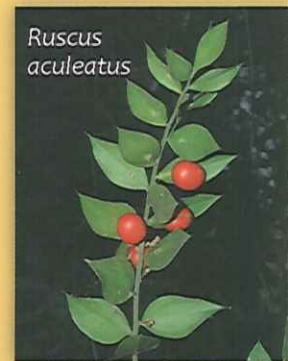
**Tradescantia**, or spiderwort (*Tradescantia fluminensis*), is frequently used to cover shadey areas. It has invaded certain riparian zones of the rivers in western Andalusia.



**Bridal creeper**  
(*Asparagus asparagoides*)  
has been used in floral  
arrangements and for  
hanging baskets. It is  
regarded as one of the  
worst weeds in Australia.  
Twisting stems smothers  
native plants. This plant  
produces green to  
red berries that are  
dispersed by birds  
and small mammals.



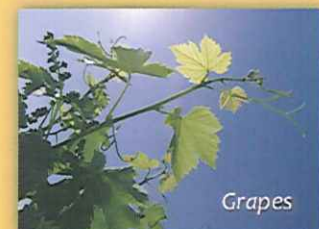
*Instead, plant:*



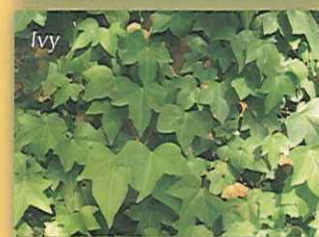
Other species with similar aspects (or even more attractive ones) with smaller water requirements and that tolerate moderate sun and intense shadows well such as...

Butcher's Brooms (*Ruscus aculeatus* and *Ruscus hypophyllum*) produce attractive intensely red fruits.

**Vinca** (*Vinca* spp.) has very attractive violet flowers almost all year around.

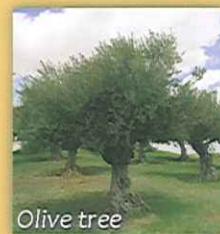


**Common ivy** (*Hedera helix*) is usually used as a climber or as a ground cover. There are many varieties and they are very resistant against stress and insects.



**Grapes** (*Vitis vinifera*), that develop dense vines that generate nice shade during summer.

## Attractive visual points



*Interesting tree species:*

Species cultivated since ancient times in the Mediterranean area such as olive trees, carob trees, pomegranate trees, fig trees and date palm trees can create attractive visual points in your garden.



## Create a Mediterranean corner

- ◆ **Shrubby germander**  
(*Teucrium fruticans*)
- ◆ **Oleander**  
(*Nerium oleander*)
- ◆ **Cork oak**  
(*Quercus suber*)
- ◆ **Mastic**  
(*Pistacia lentiscus*)
- ◆ **Kermes oak**  
(*Quercus coccifera*)
- ◆ **Mediterranean fan**  
(*Chamaerops humilis*)



Aside from being attractive and offering a variety of shapes, they are resistant to the dry andalusian summers, they require little care, they consume little water and they can act as a refuge for the native fauna. They are also economic alternatives that can be found in commercial nurseries.

You can also use any of the various species of rock-roses (*Cistus* spp or *Halimium* spp) and wild roses (*Rosa* spp) that are very resistant to droughts and plagues making it possible to save water.



Some of the native gramineae (grasses) such as the esparto grass (*Stipa tenacissima*), maintains lovely green colour throughout the summer.

## Avoid using !

**Fountain grass** (*Pennisetum setaceum*). Its seeds are easily dispersed with the wind and the help of wheeled traffic. It has already invaded various provinces of Andalusia.



**Pampa grass** (*Cortaderia selloana*). It has already colonized certain coastal areas and marshes. It requires large quantities of water.





The **Environmental Ministry** has launched the Andalusian Programme for the Control of Invasive Alien Species with the following objectives:

- ◆ To catalogue the invasive alien species.
- ◆ To control their populations.
- ◆ To develop awareness-raising campaigns and training about the ecological and economic risks associated with the spread of invasive alien species across the Andalusian territory.

**Gardening** serves an important social and environmental function. Urban parks and gardens provide leisure areas and contribute to the improvement of the landscape of our cities and towns.

A large part of the species used in Andalusian parks and gardens are exotic, that is, they come from other regions of the world. From these garden areas, they can escape and colonize surrounding open space areas, competing with the native species and threatening the diversity of the ecosystems and the services that they offer. These plants are called Invasive Alien Species and they have become a problem for the natural areas of Andalusia and its unique and varied flora and fauna that it houses.

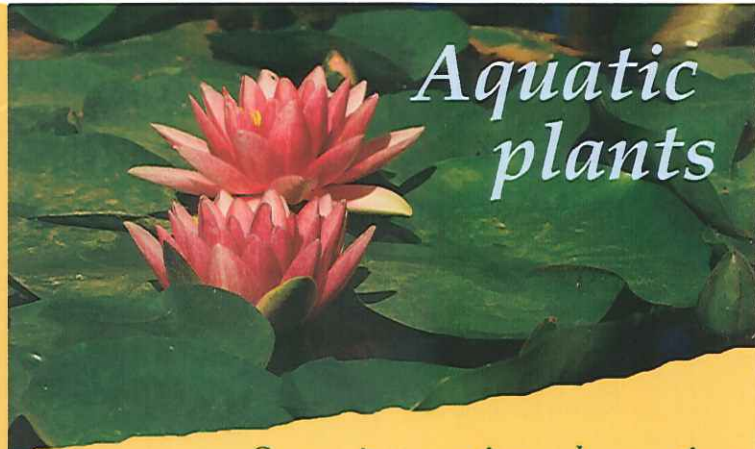
With this, you will contribute to:

- ◆ Avoid the spread of invasive species.
- ◆ Improve the biodiversity of Andalusia.
- ◆ Enrich your garden with beneficial native flora and fauna (predators of possible plagues, pollinators, etc.)

We offer you **ideas** on native or NON-invasive exotic species that are available at nurseries for reasonable prices and that are perfectly adaptable to our climate. These suggestions are only some examples of the hundreds of species of the rich Andalusian flora with which you can make interesting combinations in your garden.

In this pamphlet, you will find:

Those **invasive alien species** that present a greater risk to our valuable ecosystems and that are not recommended to be used, especially in those areas close to natural habitats.



Some interesting alternatives

**Curly-leaf pondweed** (*Potamogeton crispus* and *P. pectinatus*) that you can combine with **white water lilies** (*Nymphaea alba*) to create an attractive atmosphere. Along the rims you can use **cattails** (*Typha* spp), chaste tree (*Vitex agnus-castus*), **lemon verbena** (*Aloysia tryphylla*) or **yellow iris** (*Iris pseudacorus*). At the same time, you will be converting your pond into a small ecosystem.



Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)



Among the most dangerous species...



*Pistia stratiotes*



*Elodea* spp



*Salvinia* spp



*Azolla* spp

**Invasive aquatic plants** commonly used in ponds and aquariums present an especially high risk for our ecosystems. Portions of stems and spores can easily reach our lakes, rivers and reservoirs, where they quickly reproduce themselves.

Once there, they completely cover the watercourse, impeding the passage of light, provoking the disappearance of aquatic flora and fauna, making navigation and fishing difficult, and blocking channels.

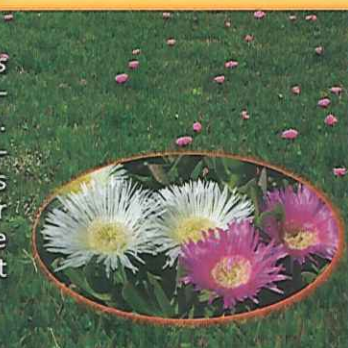
## Land plants

Ground covering

Unlike the aquatic plants, the invasion of terrestrial plants usually goes unnoticed for more time. As a consequence, many times its presence is finally noted when the damage has already been done.

Avoid using !

Ice plant (*Carpobrotus* spp.) is a dangerous invader of dune ecosystems. Once introduced, it displaces and eliminates native species. If your garden is not close to the beach, it usually does not cause problems.



Instead, plant:

Other beautiful perennial species with similar use possibilities, that have a high tolerance for strong sunlight and drought and that can even be used in rocky areas or as ground covering are:

**Asters** (*Asteriscus maritimus*), with large yellow flowers throughout the year.



**Lavender** (*Lavandula* spp) is also strongly aromatic. They blossom abundantly almost all year long.



**Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*) produces flowers from white to an intense pink from the end of Spring until the middle of Summer.



**Rosemary** (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) is an aromatic plant that is adapted to the Mediterranean climate with blue flowers almost all year.



**Wayvyleaf sea-lavender** (*Limonium sinuatum*) is another interesting option, very decorative.



**Albaidas** (*Anthyllis* spp.), **thyme** (*Thymus* spp) and **santolina** (*Santolina* spp) are very resistant to droughts and they offer very ornamental alternatives.



The best strategy is **prevention**.

Avoid leaving garden waste in the natural areas or areas near open space areas. Any small amount of garden waste can root itself and become a nucleus of a new invasion.

## Contact

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