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GREEN SHEET

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2010
PLANT FORUM NOTES

Compiled by Sula and Jorge Ochoa
Photographs by Paul Martin

Thank you to all who brought plants to the November and December 2010 meetings. Everyone is encouraged to bring in plants to share with the group. Remember that you do get one free Exhibitor's Ticket for the Opportunity Drawing if you bring in one or more plants for discussion at the Plant Forum table.

In addition to the plants discussed below, the following plants that are described or listed in the Society's *Selected Plants for Southern California Gardens* (2000) or previously written up for a *Green Sheet*, were shown [Family names in accordance with the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group II (<http://www.mobot.org/mobot/research/apweb/>)] are included for your reference.]:

Aechmea 'Foster's Favorite' (Bromeliaceae)
Citrus limon 'Ponderosa', Ponderosa lemon (Rutaceae)
Dichorisandra thyrsiflora, blue ginger (Commelinaceae)
Ilex cornuta, Chinese holly (Aquifoliaceae)
Plectranthus comosus (Lamiaceae)
Plectranthus ecklonii (Lamiaceae)
Ruellia macrantha, Christmas pride (Acanthaceae)



Photographs:
Dichorisandra thyrsiflora pictured above and *Ilex cornuta* at left.

Information in this compilation was gleaned and condensed from the Plant Forum exhibit cards, numerous sources in our library, and a suite of various internet sites.

Grevillea lanigera 'Mt. Tamboritha', spider flower, woolly grevillea (Proteaceae). Exhibited by Eileen Fiumara. This cultivar is a short, dense, spreading groundcover plant that can reach 1.5 meters (4.9 feet) across. (See species description in previous *Green Sheet* by Bart O'Brien, March 2006.) This species has narrow, woolly, grey leaves and spider-like flowers ranging from pink to magenta with some cream to pale yellow. The species is very hardy, frost and drought tolerant, flowering from winter to spring. May attract bees, birds and butterflies to your garden. The display plant was grown in Sherman Oaks.

Turnera ulmifolia, yellow alder, sage rose (Turneraceae). Exhibited by Vivien Shea. This attractive yellow-flowered shrub is native to Florida, Mexico, the West Indies and throughout the tropics (including Panama and Brazil). It generally reaches a height of around 2.5 to 3 feet. When crushed, the leaves have a strong smell. The yellow alder is easily propagated from cuttings and can be fertilized almost year-round. The University of Oklahoma reports this species needs shading in temperatures above 85 degrees Fahrenheit and to be fairly thirsty in hot weather. This plant has been found to naturalize in Hawaii and is considered a high risk species for Pacific Island ecosystems. The display plant was grown in Silver Lake.