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# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**SHARING  
SECRETS**

**JULY 2007**

*Compiled by Laura Bauer & Debra Bushweit Galliani*

**“What are your favorite mail-order seed companies or nurseries for plants? Why? What are their specialties?”**

**Larner Seeds** (Bollinas, CA)

415-868-9407; [www.larnerseeds.com](http://www.larnerseeds.com)

This is Judith Larner Lowry’s business and she’s the author of *Gardening with a Wild Heart* and *The Landscaping Ideas of Jays*.

**Seedhunt** (Watsonville CA)

831-728-5131; [www.seedhunt.com](http://www.seedhunt.com)

One of my all time favorite seed sources. Lots of very unusual things that you typically can’t get anywhere else.

**Thompson & Morgan** (Jackson, NJ)

800-274-7333; [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com)

The source—over the years this varies a lot—for many interesting and unusual seed strains (cultivars) of California native plants.

- BO’B

**Plants of the Southwest** (Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico)

800-788-7333; [www.plantsofthesouthwest.com](http://www.plantsofthesouthwest.com)

Puts out a great catalog, but you can also order seeds (and sometimes plants) online. They have a great selection of native Southwestern perennials, grasses and wildflowers. They also sell organically-grown vegetable seeds (including 29 varieties of chiles, of course!). A really fun nursery to visit, too.

- LB

After Owen Dell’s interesting and thought-provoking lecture to our Society last July, I find myself thinking hard before ordering gardening bulbs, seeds and supplies from catalogs and online companies that may be located across the country. His admonition to shop locally in an effort to reduce the use of fossil fuels has inspired me to look for local alternatives to my favorite far-away suppliers.

Instead of **Brent and Becky’s Bulbs**, a great supplier located in Virginia that I’ve enjoyed shopping from in the past, I’ve found [www.Easytogrowbulbs.com](http://www.Easytogrowbulbs.com) (866-725-5361) which is located just north of San Diego. I still haven’t taken up his to cry to “shift gears from ornamentalism” but I have tried in my own small way to produce some of my own foods.

- RC

**Pinetree Garden Seeds** (New Gloucester, ME); 207-926-3400; [www.superseeds.com](http://www.superseeds.com)

An excellent choice of annual, perennial and vegetable seeds. Very pleased with their seeds and many packets sell for \$1 or less.

**Sunshine Farm & Gardens** (Renick, WV)

304-497-2208; [www.sunfarm.com](http://www.sunfarm.com)

- *PW*

**Thompson & Morgan** for seeds and

**Geraniaceae** (Marin Co, CA)

415-461-7209; [www.geraniaceae.com](http://www.geraniaceae.com)

For hardy geraniums.

- *DK*

**Sommer's Nursery** (*N. of San Luis Obispo*)

805-457-3981

Run by Steve Sommers.

- *PS*

**Digging Dog Nursery** (Albion, CA)

707-937-1130; [www.diggingdog.com](http://www.diggingdog.com)

- *CN*

**Forestfarm** (Williams, OR)

541-846-7269; [www.forestfarm.com](http://www.forestfarm.com)

**Select Seeds** (Union, CT)

800-684-0395; [www.selectseeds.com](http://www.selectseeds.com)

- *CR*

**Gurney's Seed** (Greendale, IN)

513-354-1491; [www.gurneys.com](http://www.gurneys.com)

I buy my vegetable seeds from them.

- *GS*

**Dixondale Farms** (Carrizo Springs, TX)

877-367-1015; [www.dixondalefarms.com](http://www.dixondalefarms.com)

"Hand picked onion plants delivered to your door," information on shipping dates and varieties (long day, intermediate day, short day), for your specific location in US, small bundle with approximately 60 plants are \$9 delivered. Good varieties, good plants and good service.

**Stokes Seeds Inc.** (Buffalo, NY)

800-396-9238; [www.stokeseeds.com](http://www.stokeseeds.com)

Specializes in vegetable seeds, important supplier to commercial farms, cultural information, multiple varieties of a particular vegetable, good descriptions, good seeds, fair prices.

- *RC*

**www.ebay.com**

[Home & Garden>Gardening & Plants]

I've bought from individuals and nurseries who sell on Ebay.

- JC

**Thompson & Morgan** and

**Johnny's Selected Seeds** (Winslow, ME)

877-654-6697; [www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com)

Both have great websites and will send free catalogs.

- JCB

### *Anonymous Contributors*

**High Country Gardens** (Santa Fe, NM) 800-925-9387; [www.highcountrygardens.com](http://www.highcountrygardens.com)

Good catalog. Good plants for Southern California.

**McClure & Zimmerman** (Friesland, WI)

800-883-6988; [www.mzbulb.com](http://www.mzbulb.com)

Variety!

**Peaceful Valley** (Grass Valley, CA)

888-784-1722; [www.groworganic.com](http://www.groworganic.com)

For organic supplies.

**Totally Tomatoes** (Randolph, WI)

803-663-0016; [www.totallytomato.com](http://www.totallytomato.com)

For tomato seeds.