Climate Ready Trees for Central Valley Communities

1. **Mulga** (*Acacia aneura*)
   Mulga is native to arid Western Australia and tolerates hot and dry conditions. It can grow in sandy, loam, or clay soil types. This versatile and hardy tree produces ascending thornless branches and grows 15 to 20 feet in height. The evergreen foliage is gray-green and the tree has yellow flowers in the spring. Maintain leader to avoid suckering.

2. **Netleaf Hackberry** (*Celtis reticulata*)
   The Netleaf Hackberry is native to riparian areas in the Southwest. A deciduous tree, it reaches heights of 25 to 35 feet with a spreading or weeping canopy. The ovate leaves are medium green and turn yellow in the fall. The flowers mature into red drupes that attract birds. The Netleaf Hackberry is drought tolerant and able to thrive in variety of soil types.

3. **Desert Willow** (*Chilopsis linearis* ‘Bubba’)
   The Desert Willow is a small flowering desert tree native to California and the Southwest. The cultivar Bubba can reach 25 to 30 feet with a spread of 20 to 25 feet. It has profuse, long-lasting blooms. The showy flowers are pink and white. Leaves are linear blue green and turn golden in the fall. The Desert Willow is very drought and heat tolerant.

4. **Texas Ebony** (*Ebenopsis ebano*)
   The Texas Ebony is native to Texas and Northern Mexico, where it is evergreen. It tolerates modest frost but goes deciduous. The tree can reach a height of 30 feet, but is slow growing. Once established, it is very drought tolerant. It has a distinctive branching pattern, thorns, and fragrant yellow flowers that mature into large woody pods.

5. **Ghost Gum** (*Eucalyptus papuana*)
   The Ghost Gum is native to Australia and is a smaller eucalyptus, reaching 60 feet. Some strains have a weeping habit. The trunk is smooth and snow white. It has gray green evergreen leaves that are tinged purple by frost. White flowers bloom in the summer. It tolerates drought but can be used in well-irrigated landscapes.

The goal of this study is to evaluate the survival and growth of seldom used but promising trees in the Central Valley. We can create more resilient urban forests by shifting the palate of trees planted to those proven to perform best when exposed to climate stressors such as heat, drought, high winds, pests, disease and soil salinity.
6. **Shoestring Acacia** *(Acacia stenophylla)*  
This evergreen thornless acacia from Australia grows rapidly into an arresting specimen. The canopy is open with weeping, linear leaves. Shoestring acacia reaches a height of 20 to 30 feet. Fragrant and showy yellow flowers grow in clusters from fall to spring. The tree is drought tolerant and prefers well-drained soil. It may require staking and can sprout from roots.

7. **White Shield Osage Orange** *(Maclura pomifera ‘White Shield’)*  
Osage orange is native to the western Great Plains and Texas. It grows quickly to a height of 35 feet with equal spread. The deciduous foliage is dark green turning yellow in fall. The White Shield cultivar is thornless and fruitless.

8. **Rosewood** *(Dalbergia sissoo)*  
The Rosewood is native to Northern India and its evergreen foliage can be damaged by frost. The tree recovers quickly in the spring. It reaches a height of 30 to 50 feet with a 40 foot canopy spread. Rosewood tolerates periods of drought and can grow in sandy, clay, and loam soil types. Its roots host nitrogen-fixing bacteria. The flowers are inconspicuous.

9. **Canby’s Oak** *(Quercus canbyi)*  
The Canby oak is native to northern Mexico and Texas. It grows rapidly with an upright habit to reach 30 to 50 feet. The thick leathery leaves are semi-evergreen and resemble red oak. Acorns are small and narrow. It is heat tolerant.

10. **Thornless Honey Mesquite** *(Prosopis glandulosa x Maverick)*  
The Honey Mesquite is native to the southwestern United States. Maverick is an upright-growing, thornless cultivar of the Honey Mesquite. It can quickly reach a height of 30 feet with equal spread. The tree is drought tolerant and adaptable to a range of soil types. Some fruit and foliage litter.

11. **Desert Museum Palo Verde** *(Parkinsonia x ‘Desert Museum’)*  
The Desert Museum is Palo Verde hybrid that exhibit qualities of the Blue, Foothills, and Mexican Palo Verde. It has a strong upright branching structure and grows rapidly to 25 feet. This hybrid is thornless and the yellow flowers in spring are outstanding. It produces some fruit pod litter.

12. **Emerald Sunshine Elm** *(Ulmus propinquua)*  
The Emerald Sunshine Elm is a deciduous tree that reaches 35 feet in height with a 25 foot spread. It has a vase shaped growth habit. The foliage is deep green turning yellow in fall. Emerald Sunshine is insect resistant and tolerant of hot and windy conditions.