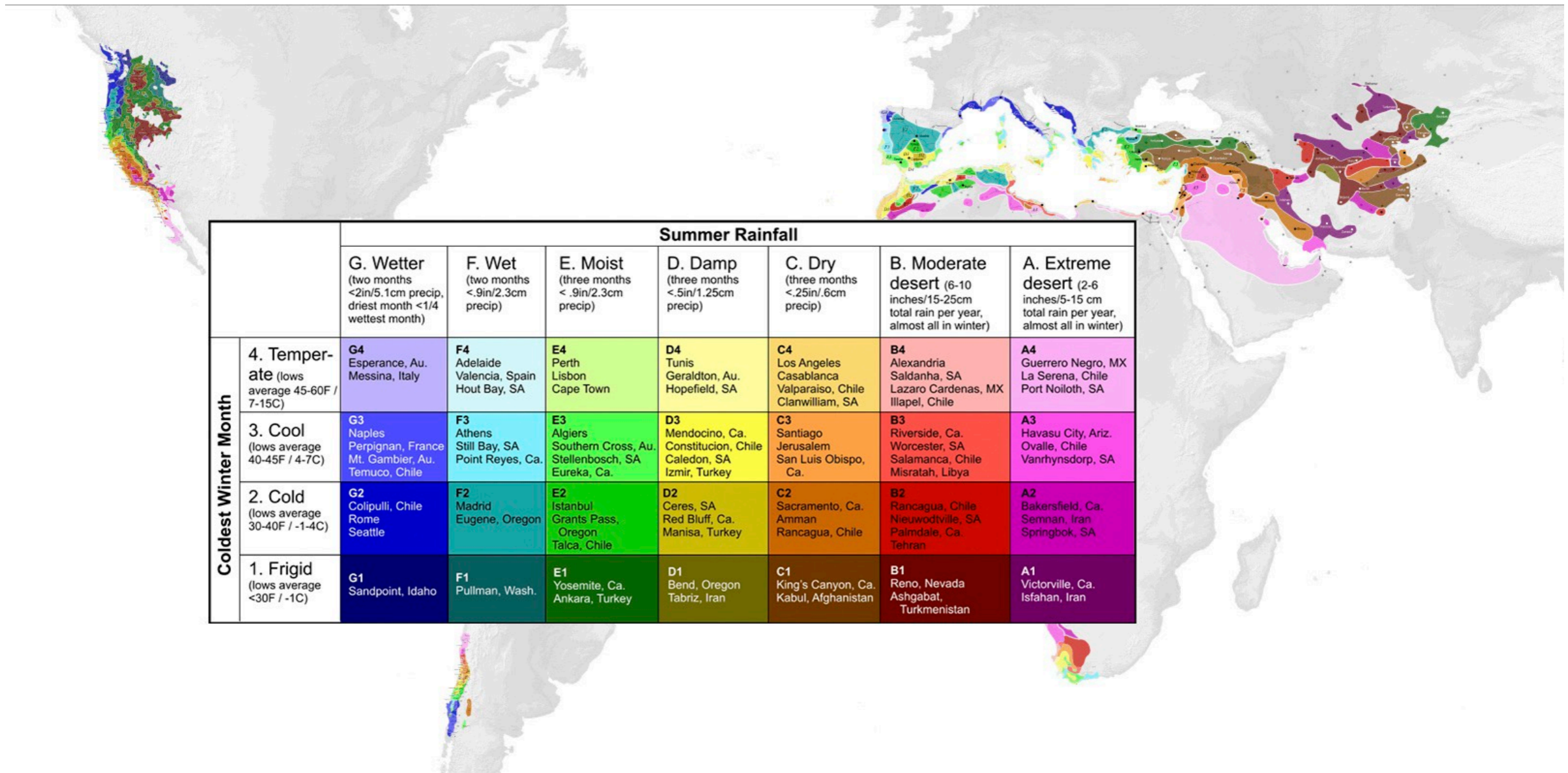


Pacific Northwest is a Summer-Dry Climate

FROM: *GARDENING IN SUMMER-DRY CLIMATES*

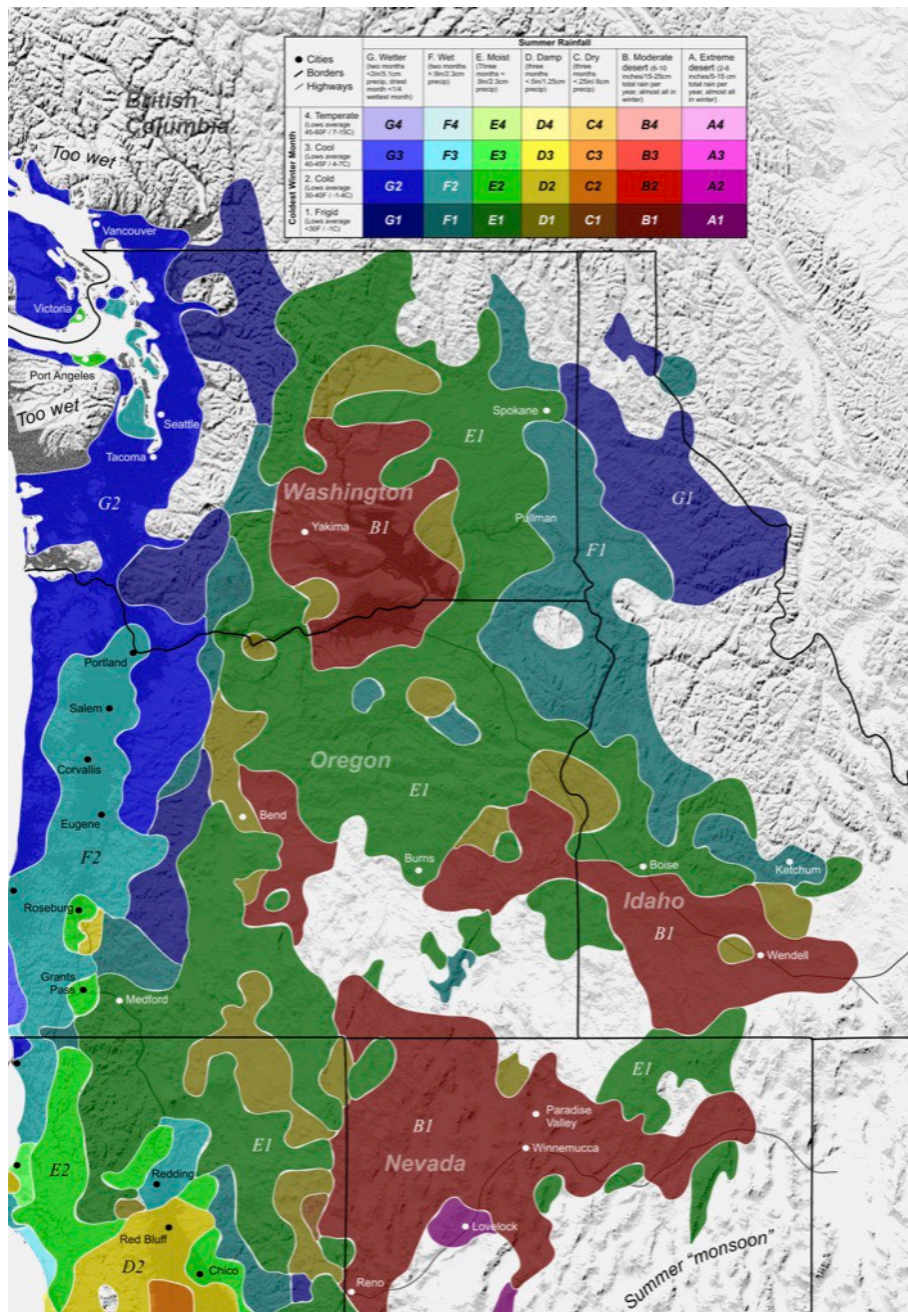


Maps from Pacific Bulb Society (here cutting off Australia. Sorry Aussies)

Summer-Dry climates range much farther than the typical description of a mediterranean climate. Especially note the Middle East, the Steppes of Asia, and **much** of the Pacific Northwest. For gardeners, understanding the climate here as summer-dry (and of course winter-wet) allows us to use a wider palette of plants than would normally be considered mediterranean.

Summer-Dry Climates of Pacific Northwest

Summer Rainfall and Winter Cold



		Summer Rainfall						
		G. Wetter (two months <2in/5.1cm precip, driest month <1/4 wettest month)	F. Wet (two months <.9in/2.3cm precip)	E. Moist (three months <.9in/2.3cm precip)	D. Damp (three months <.5in/1.25cm precip)	C. Dry (three months <.25in/.6cm precip)	B. Moderate desert (6-10 inches/15-25cm total rain per year, almost all in winter)	A. Extreme desert (2-6 inches/5-15 cm total rain per year, almost all in winter)
Coldest Winter Month	4. Temperate (lows average 45-60F / 7-15C)	G4 Esperance, Au. Messina, Italy	F4 Adelaide Valencia, Spain Hout Bay, SA	E4 Perth Lisbon Cape Town	D4 Tunis Geraldton, Au. Hopefield, SA	C4 Los Angeles Casablanca Valparaiso, Chile Clanwilliam, SA	B4 Alexandria Saldanha, SA Lazaro Cardenas, MX Illapel, Chile	A4 Guerrero Negro, MX La Serena, Chile Port Nolloth, SA
	3. Cool (lows average 40-45F / 4-7C)	G3 Naples Perpignan, France Mt. Gambier, Au. Temuco, Chile	F3 Athens Still Bay, SA Point Reyes, Ca.	E3 Algiers Southern Cross, Au. Stellenbosch, SA Eureka, Ca.	D3 Mendocino, Ca. Constitution, Chile Caledon, SA Izmir, Turkey	C3 Santiago Jerusalem San Luis Obispo, Ca.	B3 Riverside, Ca. Worcester, SA Salamanca, Chile Misratah, Libya	A3 Havasut City, Ariz. Ovalle, Chile Vanrhynsdorp, SA
	2. Cold (lows average 30-40F / -1-4C)	G2 Colipulli, Chile Rome Seattle	F2 Madrid Eugene, Oregon	E2 Istanbul Grants Pass, Oregon Talca, Chile	D2 Ceres, SA Red Bluff, Ca. Manisa, Turkey	C2 Sacramento, Ca. Amman Rancagua, Chile	B2 Rancagua, Chile Nieuwodtville, SA Palmdale, Ca. Tehran	A2 Bakersfield, Ca. Semnan, Iran Springbok, SA
	1. Frigid (lows average <30F / -1C)	G1 Sandpoint, Idaho	F1 Pullman, Wash.	E1 Yosemite, Ca. Ankara, Turkey	D1 Bend, Oregon Tabriz, Iran	C1 King's Canyon, Ca. Kabul, Afghanistan	B1 Reno, Nevada Ashgabat, Turkmenistan	A1 Victorville, Ca. Isfahan, Iran

source: Pacific Bulb Society

These maps break down into 28 different summer-dry climates based on winter temperatures and summer rainfall. However winter rainfall is another key measurement that would subdivide these regions even more. Seattle and Rome are both in the G2 block for comparable summer rainfall, but have much different winter rainfall and soils, allowing for more groundwater storage capacities. For bulb lovers in all summer-dry climates these classifications work quite well, as the most important consideration is a dry summer. However for herbaceous plants, we need to know more about winter rain. And fortunately for the Pacific Northwest there is a wide variety of plants that thrive in very wet winters and bone dry summers.

For a guide to plants to these wider regions see *Gardening in Summer-Dry Climates* by Nora Harlow and Saxon Holt (Timber Press 2021)

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