



Adaptation Art

Plant Adaptation Images and Habitat Chart





NPS/BRYANNA PLOG

Bright flowers attract pollinators to the pricklypear cactus (*Opuntia* spp.).



Datil yucca blooms (*Yucca baccata*) will turn to fruit.



Trumpet-shaped blooms of Eaton's penstemon (*Penstemon eatonii*).



Fluffy seeds of the Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*).



Oregon grape (*Mahonia repens*) blooms will turn into fruit.



Blooms of the sacred datura (*Datura wrightii*) open at night to attract moths.

Habitats of Zion

Habitat	Elevation Range	Water Available	Shade Coverage	Description
Desert grassland	3,500-4,000 ft	Minimal precipitation: <15 inches of precipitation per year	0-5%	Open fields are very hot in the summer, and receive very little precipitation. Organisms in this habitat are adapted to conserve water. Common plants include grasses, prickly pear cacti, yucca, and sagebrush.
Riparian (River)	4,000 ft	Minimal precipitation, yet constant flow of water from river and springs	85-95%	The constant supply of water forms a band of green in the desert. Plants flourish along the river, creating a shaded oasis. Common plants include cottonwood trees, a variety of wildflowers, sacred datura, and Oregon grape.
Pinyon-Juniper Woodland	4,500-6,000 ft	Low amount: 15-20 inches of rain a year	5-25%	The sparse forest on the rocky slopes of Zion is dominated by pinyon pine and juniper trees. There is still little water and desert plants such as prickly pear cacti and yucca also populate the habitat.
Plateau	6,000-8,000 ft	Medium amount: 20-30 inches a year	30-60%	Higher elevations and cooler temperatures allow the plateaus to host a variety of non-desert species. Ponderosa pine and aspen trees are common, as are manzanita bushes and a variety of wildflowers.