

PLANT ME INSTEAD!



WAIKATO REGION

Acknowledgements

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While all non-native alternatives have been screened against several databases to ensure they are not considered weedy, predicting future behaviour is not an exact science! The only way to be 100% sure is to use ecosourced native species.



Get rid of a weed, plant me instead!

Many of the weedy species that are invading and damaging our natural areas are ornamental plants that have 'jumped the fence' from gardens and gone wild. It costs councils, government departments and private landowners millions of dollars, and volunteers and community groups thousands of unpaid hours, to control these weeds every year.

This *Plant Me Instead* booklet profiles the environmental weeds of greatest concern to those in your region who work and volunteer in local parks and reserves, national parks, bush remnants, wetlands and coastal areas. Suggestions are given for locally-sold non-weedy species, both native and non-native, that can be used to replace these weeds in your garden.

We hope that this booklet gives you some ideas on what you can do in your own backyard to help protect New Zealand's precious environment.

For more information on these weeds, including control and disposal, check out:

www.weedbusters.org.nz



Know what's weedy

Groundcovers and fillers	1
Grasses, bulbs and ferns	16
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Marginal and wetland weeds	54
Aquatic weeds	55



Look for the kiwi – NZ's iconic bird – it is used to mark native alternatives.

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Bear's breeches (*Acanthus mollis*)



C.Lewis

Perennial with glossy, angular, dark green leaves and prickly erect spikes of purple and white flowers. Spreads by seeds dropped and moved by water and animals, and by root fragments. Forms dense infestations under bush canopy and in dry, sandy conditions, suppressing native seedlings.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Chatham Is. forget-me-not (*Myosotidium hortensia*)



www.cjphoto.com



Also consider:
Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)
Piu piu (*Blechnum discolor*)

Lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Mistflower & Mexican devil (*Ageratina* spp)



Mistflower (*Ageratina riparia*)



Mexican devil (*A. adenophora*)

Erect, sprawling perennials to 1 metre tall with narrow, dull green leaves with serrated edges. Small white, fluffy flowers are followed by wind-spread seeds. Can completely smother native plant communities and cause sediment build-up, flooding and instability in steep gullies and streams.

C.Lewis

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Parataniwha (*Elatostema rugosum*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Kakaha (*Astelia fragrans*)
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)

Winter rose (*Helleborus orientalis*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

Groundcovers
and fillers

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



Elephant's ear (*Alocasia brisbanensis*)



C.Lewis

Large, robust plant with thick, fleshy underground stems, milky sap and large, erect, bright green, leathery leaves. Stems are thick and trunk-like in mature plants, with the lower part often lying along the ground. Spread is by glossy scarlet or orange, bird-spread berries and by root fragments. Shades out native ground cover species and seedlings.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Puka (*Mertya sinclarii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)
Chatham Island forget-me-not
(*Myosotidium hortensia*)

Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)



www.cqphoto.com

Also consider:
Lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*)



Evergreen, upright, low-growing shrub with small, narrow leaves. Spikes of small, purple, bell-shaped flowers on short stalks are followed by small, hairy seed capsules. Invades tussock grassland, tolerating cold climates and poor soils and forming dense patches that crowd out native species.

P. Peterson

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Whip cord hebe (*Hebe cupressoides*)



R. Morris, DOC



Also consider:

Tauhinu (*Ozothamnus leptophylla*)

Tauhinu (*Pomaderris phyllicifolia*)

Breath of heaven (*Coleonema album*)



J. Liddle

Also consider:

Pink breath of heaven (*Coleonema pulchrum*)

Groundcovers
and fillers

4

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Mexican daisy (*Erigeron karvinskianus*)



C.Lewis

Vigorous groundcover with small green leaves and pink to white flowers almost all year round. Seeds prolifically and can form dense smothering mats in natural areas crowding out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Hell's bells (*Anaphalioides bellidioides*)



J.Barkla



Also consider:
Rauhuia (*Linum monogynum*)
Parahebe species

Chamomile sunray (*Rhodanthe anthemoides*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Verbena cultivars

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Artillery plant (*Galeobdolon luteum*)



C. Lewis

Vigorous perennial groundcover with yellow flowers, hairy purplish stems, and leaves with silvery-white patches. Mainly spreads by fragments and can quickly form thick, invasive, smothering mats that prevent native plants establishing.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Panakenake (*Pratia angulata*)



J. Rolfe



Also consider:
Alpine hard fern (*Blechnum penna-marina*)
Parahebe (*Parahebe linifolia*)

Dalmation bellflower (*Campanula portenschlagiana*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Chilean rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*)



C.Lewis

Perennial with large, rough, rhubarb-like leaves to 2 metres across on prickly stems. Cone-shaped flowerheads produce small, bird-spread seeds. Invades coastal cliffs, stream margins, wetlands, and slip faces, with the large leaves shading out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Parataniwha (*Elatostema rugosum*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Kiokio (*Blechnum novae-zelandiae*)
Kakaha (*Astelia fragrans*)

Chinese rhubarb (*Rheum palmatum*)



www.cdgphoto.com

Also consider:
Hosta species and cultivars
Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)
Bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Common ivy (*Hedera helix*)



Department of Conservation

Vigorous, evergreen, creeping vine that can climb to 30 metres. Inconspicuous flowers are followed by black, fleshy fruit spread by birds. Stems or fragments touching the ground can also take root. Completely carpets the forest floor and can climb to the tops of trees, clinging with small aerial roots. Smothers native species and prevents native seedlings establishing.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)



J. Taylor, DOC



Also consider:
Scarlet rata (*Metrosideros fulgens*)
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)

Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Yellow & kahali ginger (*Hedychium* species)



Yellow ginger (*H. flavescens*)



Kahali ginger (*H. gardnerianum*)

Herbaceous perennials with large, branching, tuberous roots that form mats up to 1 metre thick. *Hedychium gardnerianum* spreads by seeds and root fragments, while *Hedychium flavescens* spreads only by root fragments. Forms dense colonies in natural areas smothering native plants and preventing native seedlings establishing.

J. Boow (left), T. Senior (right)

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)
Puka (*Meryta sinclairii*)

Bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Hippeastrum cultivars

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Groundcovers
and fillers

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Lantana (*Lantana camara*)



C. Lewis

Prickly, many-branched, scrambling shrub to 3 metres tall with pungent smelling mid- to dark-green leaves. Clusters of flowers, generally yellow and pink but sometimes red or orange, are followed by bird-spread fruit that ripens from green to a glossy black. Also spreads by suckering, and forms dense colonies crowding out native plants and restricting access.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Taurepo (*Rhabdothamnus solandri*)



S. Frimmel



Also consider:
Coastal tree daisy (*Olearia solandri*)
Heketara (*Olearia rani*)
Pink tree broom (*Carmichaelia glabrescens*)

Flame-of-the-woods (*Ixora coccinea*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:
Australian fuchsia (*Correa pulchella*)
Common correa (*Correa reflexa*)

Groundcovers
and fillers

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



Blue spur flower (*Plectranthus ciliatus*)



C.Lewis

Upright herb with trailing stems and aromatic leaves with purple undersides. Spikes of white flowers are followed by seed capsules. Spreads rapidly in native forest, smothering the ground and preventing native seedlings from establishing.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Creeping fuchsia (*Fuchsia procumbens*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Bidibid (*Acaena inermis*)
Parataniwha (*Elatostema rugosum*)

Heartleaf saxifrage (*Bergenia cordifolia*)



C.Lewis

Also consider:
Evergreen hydrangea (*Dichroa versicolor*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



African club moss (*Selaginella kraussiana*)



D.O'Halloran, DOC

Creeping, fernlike groundcover with slender stems and tiny leaves. Produces millions of tiny spores and grows from fragments. Forms dense mats in shady areas that crowd out native seedlings and replace low-growing native plants, such as mosses and ferns.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Bidibid (*Acaena inermis*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Panakenake (*Pratia angulata*)
True maidenhead fern (*Adiantum aethiopicum*)

Dalmation bellflower (*Campanula portenschlagiana*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



German ivy (*Senecio mikanoides*)



C.Lewis

Scrambling or climbing perennial vine to 3-5 metres with weak green stems. Ivy-like leaves are thin, soft, glossy, hairless, and clammy to touch. Dense clusters of yellow, ragwort-like flowers are followed by fluffy, wind-spread seeds. Rapidly smothers small trees and low growing native plants and prevents native seedlings establishing.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)
Pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia australis*)

Yellow jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Rosa banksia 'Luteum'

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Tradescantia (*Tradescantia fluminensis*)



C.Lewis

Succulent, creeping, dark green perennial groundcover. White three-petalled triangular flowers do not produce seed, but fragments of stem take root. Forms dense mats that smother native plants and prevent native seedlings establishing. Can cause contact dermatitis in dogs.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Nertera (*Nertera depressa*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Panakenake (*Pratia angulata*)
Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum cunninghamii*)

Winter rose (*Helleborus orientalis*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Periwinkle (*Vinca major*)



C.Lewis

Evergreen perennial groundcover with oval, waxy leaves and mauve-blue flowers. Stems root when they come in contact with the soil, forming very dense, carpet-like mats that smother native plants and prevent native seedlings establishing.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Panakenake (*Pratia angulata*)



J.Roife



Also consider:
Powhiwi (*Calystegia tuguriorum*)
Scrambling fuchsia (*Fuchsia perscandens*)

Speedwell (*Veronica prostrata*)



www.digphoto.com

Also consider:
Campanula cultivars

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox*)



C. Lewis

Robust, evergreen, clump-forming perennial to 60 centimetres tall with up to 20 wide leathery leaves on each shoot. Light blue or white flowers forming umbrella-shaped clusters are followed by seed spread by wind and water; it is also spread by the long, thick, underground stem system. Forms dense mats that exclude native species, and seedlings easily outcompete young native plants in warm, dry places.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Mikoikoi (*Libertia ixiodes*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:
Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)

Turf lily (*Liriope muscari*)



C. Lewis

Also consider:
Day lily (*Hemerocallis* species except *H. fulva*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Canna lily (*Canna indica*)



C. Lewis

Clump-forming perennial growing to 2 metres, with long, fleshy, bright green leaves and a thick spreading root system. Showy red or yellow flowerheads are followed by black, bird-spread seeds. Also spreads by root fragments. Grows in dense thickets crowding out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Wharangi (*Phormium cookianum*)
Maori onion (*Bulbinella hookeri*)

Hosta species



J. Liddle

Also consider:
Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Pampas (*Cortaderia selloana* & *C. jubata*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Common pampas (*Cortaderia selloana*)

Large, perennial, clump-forming grass to 5 metres tall with large, fluffy, upright flowers and narrow, sharp-edged leaves. Flowers of *Cortaderia selloana* are white, while those of *Cortaderia jubata* have a purple tinge. Invades natural areas, suppressing native plants, harbouring animal pests and creating a fire risk.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Toetoe (*Cortaderia richardii*)



www.cfpphoto.com



Also consider:
Chionochloa flavicans

Red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)



K Brnoome



Also consider:
Hunangamoho (*Chionochloa conspicua*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Montbretia (*Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora*)



C. Lewis

Evergreen or summer-green clump-forming perennial with bright green, sword-shaped leaves. Orange-red flowers are followed by seed capsules, and it also spreads by underground corms. Invades natural areas, crowding out native species, and the masses of spreading corms in the soil can contribute to erosion, siltation, and the breakdown of stream banks.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)



R. Morris, DOC



Also consider:
Maori onion (*Bulbinella hookeri*)
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)

Hemerocallis 'Amber glow'



www.cdgphoto.com

Also consider:
Oxblood lily (*Hippeastrum advenum*)
Crown Imperial (*Fritillaria imperialis*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Horsetail (*Equisetum* species)

T. James (left) / Environment Canterbury (both right)



Equisetum arvense



E. hyemale (both above)

Small perennials that grow from creeping underground stems. Fertile shoots produce spores, while hollow, sterile shoots are jointed, with bristle-like branches growing from the joints. All species invade wet areas and are extremely hard to control once they are established, as they are resistant to most herbicides.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Pukio (*Carex secta*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:
Wharariki (*Phormium cookianum*)

Phormium cultivars



N. Douglas



Also consider:
Baumea (*Baumea rubiginosa*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)



C. Lewis

Semi-aquatic perennial growing in clumps to 2 metres tall, with dense rhizomes that form floating mats, and sword-like leaves emerging in fans from a reddish base. Yellow flowers are followed by seed capsules containing many brown, flattened, three-sided, disc-like seeds. Crowds out native species that grow on margins of water bodies and can invade flood-prone pasture.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kutakuta (*Eleocharis spachelata*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:
Mikoikoi (*Libertia ixiodes*)
Oioi (*Leptocarpus similis*)

Hemerocallis 'Amber glow'



www.criphoto.com

Also consider:
Day lily (*Hemerocallis* species except *H. fulva*)
Blue iris (*Iris versicolor*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Himalayan fairy grass (*Miscanthus nepalensis*)

C.Lewis / L.Davison, DOC (inset)



Clump forming grass growing to 1 metre, with long leaf blades with a white stripe along the midrib. Flower stalks support a dainty cluster of bright golden flowers drooping from the tip. Invades dry sunny areas crowding out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Chionochloa flavicans



www.dgphoto.com



Also consider:
Hunangamoho (*Chionochloa conspicua*)

Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Tuber ladder fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*)



C.Lewis

Shade tolerant perennial fern with upright, ladder-like green fronds growing from a dense, wiry root system that produces numerous hairy, brown tubers, each capable of forming a new plant. Forms dense colonies that crowd out and replace low growing native plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Puniu

(*Polystichum vestitum*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Piu piu (*Blechnum discolor*)

Pukupuku

(*Doodia australis*)



N.Douglas



Also consider:
Nini (*Blechnum chambersii*)

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Palm grass (*Setaria palmifolia*)



C.Lewis

Large, strongly rooted perennial grass with distinctive pleated, prickly leaves, and many irritating hairs on the leaf stalks. Spreads by seed and root fragments. Grows in full sun or semi-shade, crowding out native grasses and low growing species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Pepepe

(*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Hunangamoho (*Chionochloa conspicua*)
Wharariki (*Phormium cookianum*)

Chionochloa flavicans



www.cfpphoto.com



Also consider:
Red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Arum lily & Green goddess



C. Lewis

(*Zantedeschia aethiopica*)

Robust, evergreen, clump-forming plant to 1.5 metres tall with large, leathery, arrowhead-shaped leaves. Trumpet-shaped 'flowers' consist of a large, greenish-white modified leaf enclosing the yellow spike-shaped flower inside. Spreads by seed and tubers. Persistent colony-forming invader of swampy areas, smothering the ground and preventing the establishment of native seedlings.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kahakaha (*Astelia nervosa*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:
Kakaha (*Astelia fragrans*)
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)

Hosta species



J. Liddle

Also consider:
Day lily (*Hemerocallis* species except *H. fulva*)

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Chocolate vine (*Akebia quinata*)



C.Lewis

High climbing deciduous or evergreen vine with bright green leaves made up of five or less leaflets. Fragrant chocolate-purple coloured flowers are sometimes followed by flattened, sausage-shaped pods. Spreads by stem and root fragments and seed, and smothers native plants in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)



Also consider:
Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)
Kohia (*Passiflora tetandra*)

Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:
Purple coral pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*)
Chilean jasmine (*Mandevilla laxa*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Mignonette vine (*Anredera cordifolia*)



C.Lewis

Perennial creeper with fleshy, heart-shaped leaves and tuberous rhizomes, both underground and along the stems, which are its main method of spread. Produces spikes of sweetly scented white flowers. Smothers or replaces native plants in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Akakiore (*Parsonia heterophylla*)



www.cjgphoto.com



Also consider:
Creeping pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia australis*)

Japanese wisteria (*Wisteria floribunda*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:
Silky wisteria (*Wisteria venusta*)
Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Moth plant / cruel vine (*Araujia sericifera*)



C.Lewis

Slender evergreen vine climbing to 6 metres with stems containing a milky white sap that can irritate skin and eyes. Waxy white flowers are followed by large, choko-like green pods containing black, wind-spread seeds; the seedpods may be harmful to humans or animals if eaten. Competes with, smothers, and replaces native plants in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)



G.Crawcraft, DOC



Also consider:
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)
Small white clematis (*Clematis forsteri*)

Tweedia (*Tweedia caerulea*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:
Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)
Swanplant (*Asclepias physocarpa*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Asparagus group (*Asparagus* species)



Asparagus asparagoides



Asparagus setaceus



Asparagus aethiopicus



Asparagus scandens

Climbing and scrambling vines with tuberous root systems, thin wiry stems, and 'leaves' that are actually flattened stems, ranging in shape from oval to needle-like depending on species. Inconspicuous pinkish-white flowers are followed by red, bird-spread berries. Rapidly smothers native species in natural areas, and spines on some species discourages access through infested areas. This weed group does not include edible asparagus.

C.Lewis (all)

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)



J.Taylor, DOC



Also consider:
Pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*)
Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum cunninghamii*)

Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Firecracker vine (*Manettia luteorubra*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*)



C.Lewis

Vigorous, fast growing, perennial climber with stems up to 10 metres long. Purple bell-shaped flowers are followed by oval green fruit that produce winged water- or wind-spread seeds. Grows over trees and shrubs forming a dense canopy and smothering native plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kohia

(*Passiflora tetrandra*)



www.cifphoto.com



Also consider:

White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)

Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)

Purple coral pea

(*Hardenbergia violacea*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:

Chilean jasmine (*Mandevilla laxa*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Blue morning glory (*Ipomoea indica*)



C. Lewis

High climbing perennial vine with mid- to dull-green three-lobed leaves. Purple-blue flowers are very rarely followed by viable seed in New Zealand, but new plants establish readily from stem fragments. Smothers native plants in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Rauparaha (*Calystegia soldanella*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Powhiwi (*Calystegia tuguriorum*)
Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)
Scrambling fuchsia (*Fuchsia perscandens*)

Morning glory (*Convolvulus cneorum*)



J. Liddle

Also consider:
Evergreen clematis (*Clematis armandii*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Jasmine (*Jasminum polyanthum*)



C.Lewis

Vigorous evergreen climber growing to 10 metres. Clusters of highly scented pinkish-white flowers are sometimes followed by black, bird-spread berries. Mainly spreads by taking root where it touches the ground, forming a dense groundcover as well as smothering vegetation up to mid-canopy level. Capable of seriously damaging native forest. Yellow jasmine (*Jasminum humile*) is also weedy.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)



www.cjphoto.com



Also consider:
Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)
Kohia (*Passiflora tetandra*)

Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)



C.Lewis

Vigorous smothering climber capable of growing 15 metres each year. Produces sweetly scented white and yellow flowers, followed by black, bird-spread fruit. Also spreads by stem fragments. Invades natural areas, completely smothering small trees and shrubs. English honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*), hedge honeysuckle (*L. nitida*) and *L.x. americana* are also weedy.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Small white clematis (*Clematis forsteri*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)
Titiramao (*Rubus squarrosus*)

Yellow jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)



www.crfphoto.com

Also consider:
Rosa banksia 'luteum'

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Banana passionfruit & Blue passionflower



C.Lewis (left), C.Howell, DOC (right)



(*Passiflora* species)

Vigorous evergreen climbers reaching 10 metres. Banana passionfruit (*P. tripartita*, *P. tarminiana*, *P. mixta*) has tubular pink flowers and oval yellow edible fruit; blue passion flower (*P. caerulea*) has blue-white flowers and inedible orange fruit. Both spread by seed or take root where stems touch the ground. They overtop and smother trees in native forest and crowd out low-growing native plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kohia

(*Passiflora tetandra*)



Also consider:
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)

Chilean bellflower (*Lapageria rosea*)



Also consider:
Evergreen clematis (*Clematis armandii*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)



C.Howell, DOC

Deciduous tree to 20 metres tall with smooth grey bark and distinctive wind-spread “helicopter” seeds. Seedlings are shade tolerant, allowing it to invade and ultimately take over bush areas that would be resistant to invasion by other weed species. Long lived, and forms dense stands that crowd out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Manatu (*Plagianthus regius*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:
Tree fuchsia (*Fuchsia excorticata*)
Houhere (*Hoheria angustifolia*)

Liquidamber (*Liquidamber styraciflua*)



C.Lewis

Also consider:
Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Monkey apple (*Acmena smithii*)

Department of Conservation



Tree to 20 metres tall with bronze-purple new foliage and fleshy white or pinky-mauve bird-spread fruit. Commonly used for hedging and as an ornamental. Seedlings are shade tolerant and can establish under forest canopies, eventually replacing canopy species altogether. Brush cherry (*Syzygium australe*) is closely related, looks very similar, and is also weedy.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Wharangi (*Melicope ternata*)



www.cifphoto.com



Also consider:
Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*)
Kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*)

Sweet michelia (*Michelia doltsopa*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:
Michelia yunnanensis
Giant dogwood (*Cornus controversa*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)



C. Lewis

Fast-growing deciduous tree with leaves made up of smaller alternating leaflets that have a pungent smell when crushed. Yellow-green flowers are followed by large amounts of seed. Also spreads through an aggressive suckering root system that produces toxins that prevent other species establishing near it. Crowds out native species in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Titoki

(*Alectryon excelsus*)



S.Frimmel



Also consider:
Kohehohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*)
Rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*)

Weeping silver pear

(*Pyrus salicifolia* 'Pendula')



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Also consider:
Crab apple (*Malus floribunda*)

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Shrubs, trees
and palms

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Buddleia (*Buddleia davidii*)



C.Lewis

Deciduous or semi-evergreen many-stemmed shrub to 4 metres tall. Spikes of fragrant blue to purple flowers are followed by numerous wind-spread seeds. Dull green, lance-shaped leaves are often hairy. Forms dense colonies and is an invader of exotic forestry and natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Koromiko (*Hebe salicifolia*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*)
Corokia buddleioides

Lilac bush (*Syringa vulgaris*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:
Luculia (*Luculia gratissima*)
Crepe myrtle (*Lagastromeria indica*)
Beauty bush (*Calliandra portoricensis*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)

Department of Conservation



Bushy, many-branched shrub growing to 3 metres with thick, toothed leaves. Bright yellow, daisy-like flowers are followed by hard, ivory-coloured seed spread by birds and water. Rapidly colonises coastal cliffs and dunes and other associated natural areas and crowds out native plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Taupata (*Coprosma repens*)



W. Bennett



Also consider:
Corokia (*Corokia cotoneaster*)

Genista *steropetalata*



J. Liddle

Also consider:
Daphne (*Daphne odora*)
Dwarf frangipani (*Hymenosporum flavum*
'gold nugget')

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster franchetti* / *C. simonsii*)



C. Howell, DOC

Spreading evergreen shrubs growing to 4 metres, with blue-green leaves and bunches of glossy, bright red, bird-spread berries. Younger leaves have downy white undersides. Invades natural areas and forms dense stands that crowd out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Corokia (*Corokia cotoneaster*)

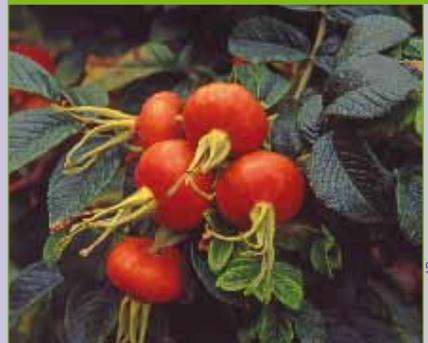


C. Lewis



Also consider:
Karamu (*Coprosma robusta*)

Japanese rose (*Rosa rugosa*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:
Photinia 'red robin'

Shrubs, trees
and palms

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



Strawberry dogwood (*Dendrobenthamia capitata*)



C. Lewis

Bushy evergreen tree up to 6 metres tall with oval grey-green leaves tapering to a long point, paler underneath, and densely covered in fine hairs. Pale yellow flowers are followed by red strawberry-like, bird-spread fruit. Crowds out native species in regenerating bush areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Southern rata (*Metrosideros umbellata*)



P. Anderson, DOC



Also consider:
Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*)
Whau (*Entelia arborescens*)

Cornus florida 'Spring song'



www.cripphoto.com

Also consider:
Rambutan (*Nephelium lappaceum*)
Kousa dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)

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Shrubs, trees
and palms

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Japanese walnut (*Juglans ailantifolia*)



C.Lewis

Deciduous hardwood tree growing to 15 metres with leaflets that are hairless above and have densely hairy veins below. Male and female catkins are followed by clusters of sticky rust-coloured fruit with hard, thick-shelled nuts that contain seeds. Long lived species that grows into the canopy and shades out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kahikatea

(*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*)



S.Frimmel



Also consider:

Karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*)

Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*)

English oak

(*Quercus robur*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:

Other *Quercus* species

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Himalayan honeysuckle (*Leycesteria formosa*)



C. Lewis

Deciduous or semi-evergreen perennial shrub to 2 or more metres with heart-shaped leaves and straight, round, hairless stems that are hollow and green when young, but become woody. Drooping spikes of white and purple funnel-shaped flowers are followed by juicy, dark brownish-purple, bird-spread berries. Rapidly forms dense thickets that crowd out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kakabeak (*Clianthus puniceus*)



N. Douglas



Also consider:
Puketea (*Laurelia novae-zelandiae*)
Kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*)

Taurepo (*Rhabdothamnus solandri*)



S. Frimmel



Also consider:
Pink tree broom
(*Carmichaelia glabrescens*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Tree privet & Chinese privet (*Ligustrum* spp)



Tree privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*)



Chinese privet (*L. sinense*)

Evergreen trees growing to 10 metres (tree privet - shown here in berry) and 7 metres (Chinese privet - shown in flower). Tree privet has dark green glossy leaves while Chinese privet has small, dull green leaves with wavy edges. Both species have spikes of white flowers and black, bird-spread berries. Crowds out native species in natural areas.

C.Lewis

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kamahi (*Weinmannia racemosa*)



www.cfgphoto.com



Also consider:
Kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*)
Hangehange (*Geniostoma rupestre*)

Evergreen magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)



www.cfgphoto.com

Also consider:
Bottlebrush (*Callistemon pollandri* 'red clusters')
Camellia sasanqua

Shrubs, trees
and palms

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



Brush wattle (*Paraserianthes lophantha*)

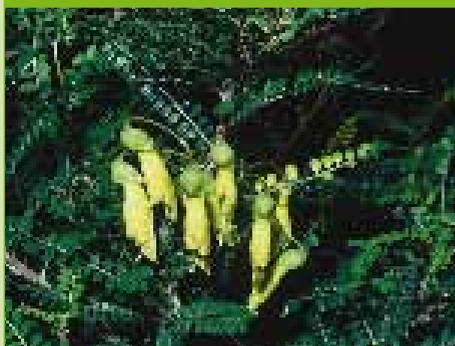


C. Lewis

Evergreen shrub to small tree with densely hairy, ribbed twigs and feathery blue-green leaves. Numerous pale yellow, brush-like flowers are followed by smooth surfaced pods containing black seeds. Invades natural areas, forming dense stands and displacing native trees.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kowhai (*Sophora microphylla*)



D. Veitch, DOC



Also consider:
Green mikimiki (*Coprosma virescens*)
Manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*)

Lemon bottlebrush (*Callistemon paludosus*)



www.criphoto.com

Also consider:
Blue jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*)
Cajeput tree (*Melaleuca linariifolia*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Phoenix palm (*Phoenix canariensis*)

Department of Conservation



Hardy, slow-growing palm to 18 metres tall with a single thick upright trunk and stiff leaves forming a crown up to 4 metres wide. Inconspicuous flowers are followed by clusters of orange-yellow, date-like, ornamental bird-spread fruit. Crowds out native species in natural areas. Barbs on young fronds can impale people and animals, requiring surgical removal.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*)



www.cifphoto.com



Also consider:
Wheki ponga (*Dicksonia fibrosa*)

Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)



www.cifphoto.com



Also consider:
Soft tree fern (*Cyathea smithii*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Sweet pea shrub (*Polygala myrtifolia*)



C. Lewis

Perennial shrub to 2 metres tall, with oval, light green leaves. Pinky-purple pea-like flowers with a white outside petal are followed by hairy, dark brown seeds in a winged capsule. A particular problem in coastal areas, where it stops native plants establishing.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kowhai (*Sophora prostrata*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Hebe speciosa
Makomako (*Aristotelia serrata*)

Mexican bush sage (*Salvia leucantha*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:
Glory bush (*Tibouchina grandiflora*)
Round leafed mint bush (*Prostranthera rotundifolium*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Taiwan cherry (*Prunus campanulata*)

Department of Conservation



Deciduous tree growing to 8 metres tall with branches stretching upward to produce a 'chalice' shape. Pink bell-shaped flowers emerge before leaves in early spring and are followed by small, bird-spread cherries that ripen to black. Invades bush areas and crowds out native plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Puriri (*Vitex lucens*)



N.Douglas



Also consider:
Kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*)
Wineberry (*Aristotelia serrata*)

Crab apple (*Malus floribunda*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:
Weeping silver pear (*Pyrus salicifolia* 'pendula')

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Bamboo (*Pseudosasa japonica*)



Department of Conservation

Medium-sized bamboo growing to 5 metres with bright green leaves and dark green canes. Spreads by an extensive and aggressive underground root system. Forms dense thickets that crowd out native species in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Toetoe (*Cortaderia splendens*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:
Bamboo grass (*Microlaena polynoda*)

Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)

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Shrubs, trees
and palms

GARDEN ESCAPEE



False acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)



C. Lewis

Deciduous tree to 25 metres tall with thin leaflets that are dark green above and light green below. Fragrant, white, pea-like flowers are followed by shiny, flat pods that burst to release seeds. Spreads vigorously by root suckering and stump sprouting. Forms dense thickets that crowd out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kohehohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*)



S.Frimmel



Also consider:
Porokaiwhiri (*Hedycarya arborea*)
Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*)

Porokaiwhiri (*Hedycarya arborea*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Whau (*Entelia arborescens*)

Shrubs, trees
and palms

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



Woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*)



Small tree growing to 10 metres with large, furry, pungent, greyish leaves. Clusters of purple flowers with yellow centres develop into yellow, marble-sized, bird-spread fruit. Invades natural

areas and crowds out native plants. Moderately toxic to humans and livestock, and the hairs from the leaves can irritate skin, eyes, nose and throat.

C.Lewis

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Rangiora (*Brachyglottis repanda*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Houpara (*Pseudopanax lessonii*)
Poroporo (*Solanum laciniatum*)

Glory bush (*Tibouchina grandiflora*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Fragrant viburnum (*Viburnum farreri*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Rice paper plant (*Tetrapanax papyriferus*)



C.Lewis

Evergreen shrub or small tree to 2 metres tall with large, palm-like leaves and thick stems that are covered in fine, dusty hairs. Clusters of white, woolly, ball-shaped flowers are followed by clusters of round, black berries. Also spreads by suckering. Forms dense thickets that crowd out native species in natural areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Pate

(*Schefflera digitata*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Pseudopanax species

Whau

(*Entelia arborescens*)



www.cifphoto.com



Also consider:
Rangiora (*Brachyglottis repanda*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Chinese fan palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*)

Department of Conservation



Palm growing to 12 metres tall with large circular leaves and trunk covered in coarse fibre. Flowers emerging from a packet-like bud are followed by blue round or oblong bird-spread fruits in summer. Establishes as mature trees in native forests, replacing the native nikau and outcompeting native understorey plants. As a seedling it is very difficult to tell apart from nikau.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)



www.cfyphoto.com



Also consider:
Ti kapu (*Cordyline indivisa*)

Nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*)



S. Frimmel



Also consider:
Tree fern (*Dicksonia fibrosa*)

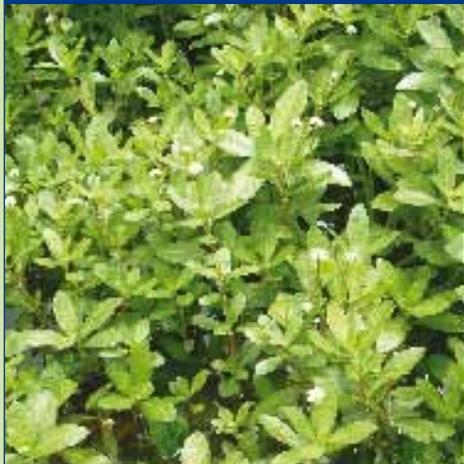
53

Shrubs, trees
and palms

GARDEN ESCAPEES



Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)



C. Lewis

Perennial aquatic or terrestrial herb with waxy, dark-green leaves in opposite pairs. Hollow stems are often reddish in colour. Produces white, clover-like flowers but does not set seed in New Zealand. Rapidly forms extensive floating mats that cover and block waterways, causing siltation, flooding, and destruction of habitats for native species. Also invades dry land, affecting crops and pasture, and is toxic to livestock.

GARDEN ESCAPEES



Senegal tea (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*)



C. Lewis

Perennial aquatic herb up to 1 metre tall with dark-green, slightly waxy, lance-shaped leaves with serrated edges, and white, highly scented clover-like flowers followed by seeds. Hollow stems can form roots at the nodes, and grows rapidly into a floating mat that shades out native species and blocks waterways.

GARDEN ESCAPEES



Egeria (*Egeria densa*)



Freshwater bottom-rooted herb to 5 metres tall. Produces white flowers just above the waterline. Stems can take root and form new colonies. Rapidly invades waterways, crowding out native species, and blocking irrigation and drainage channels, and hydro dams.

NIWA



Lagarosiphon (*Lagarosiphon major*)



Submerged bottom-rooting perennial. The leaves are arranged spirally around the stem and are curved backwards or downwards. Produces tiny, pinkish flowers. Rapidly forms dense mats that shade out native species, and block irrigation and drainage channels and hydroelectric dams.

NIWA



Mexican water lily (*Nymphaea mexicana*)



Similar to other waterlilies, but heart-shaped floating leaves often have dark-brown flecks on the upper surface. Flowers are pale-yellow with many petals. Spreads by underwater rhizomes and extensive fleshy stems with banana-shaped tubers. Forms dense mats of floating leaves that clog waterways, crowding out other plants and preventing recreational use.

NIWA

Groundcovers and fillers

Bear's breeches	<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	1
Mistflower / Mexican Devil	<i>Ageratina riparia</i> / <i>A. adenophora</i>	2
Elephant's ear	<i>Alocasia brisbanensis</i>	3
Heather	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	4
Mexican daisy	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	5
Artillery plant	<i>Galeobdolon luteum</i>	6
Chilean rhubarb	<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>	7
Ivy - common	<i>Hedera helix</i>	8
Yellow (wild) ginger	<i>Hedychium flavescens</i>	9
Kahili ginger	<i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i>	9
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i>	10
Blue spur flower	<i>Plectranthus ciliatus</i>	11
African club moss	<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	12
Ivy - german	<i>Senecio mikanioides</i>	13
Tradescantia	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	14
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	15

Grasses, bulbs and ferns

Agapanthus	<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>	16
Canna lily	<i>Canna indica</i>	17
Pampas	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i> , <i>C. jubata</i>	18
Montbretia	<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora</i>	19
Horsetail	<i>Equistum</i> species	20
Yellow flag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	21
Himalayan fairy grass	<i>Miscanthus nepalensis</i>	22
Ladder fern	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	23
Palm grass	<i>Setaria palmifolia</i>	24
Arum lily / green goddess	<i>Zantedeschia</i> species	25

Climbers and vines

Chocolate vine	<i>Akebia quinata</i>	26
Mignonette vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	27
Moth plant	<i>Araujia sericifera</i>	28
Asparagus group	<i>Asparagus</i> species	29
Cathedral bells	<i>Cobaea scandens</i>	30
Blue morning glory	<i>Ipomoea indica</i>	31
Jasmine	<i>Jasminum polyanthum</i>	32
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	33
Banana passionfruit	<i>Passiflora</i> species	34
Blue passionflower		

Trees and palms

Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	35
Monkey apple	<i>Acmena smithii</i>	36
Tree of heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	37
Buddleia	<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	38
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	39
Cotoneaster	<i>C. franchetti</i> / <i>C. simonsii</i>	40
Strawberry dogwood	<i>Dendrobenthamia capitata</i>	41
Japanese walnut	<i>Juglans ailantifolia</i>	42
Himalayan honey suckle	<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>	43
Privet - all types	<i>Ligustrum</i> species	44
Brush wattle	<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>	45
Phoenix palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	46
Sweet pea shrub	<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	47
Taiwan cherry	<i>Prunus campanulata</i>	48
Bamboo	<i>Pseudosasa japonica</i>	49
False acacia	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	50
Woolly nightshade	<i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	51
Rice paper plant	<i>Tetrapanax papyriferum</i>	52
Chinese fan palm	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	53

Marginal and wetland weeds

Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	54
Senegal tea	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	54

Aquatic weeds

Egeria	<i>Egeria densa</i>	55
Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	55
Mexican water lily	<i>Nymphaea mexicana</i>	55



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Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Hamilton City Council
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa