

"Riparian specialty" plants. These are particularly suited to riparian (streambank) areas anywhere in the catchment. Many of the trees selected grow tall with clean trunks. Some will make fine specimen trees but may ultimately grow very tall and be more suited for large public areas than domestic gardens. See previous pages for keys and notes about planting in the floodway.

Species	Cultivation tips and bird value *see key on front page
Trees and shrubs	
cabbage tree (<i>Cordyline australis</i>)	H, F, N, S and partial shade, Z, W, soil holding ability
fivefinger (<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>)	Q, T, D, N, F*
kahikatea (<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>)	D, A, F, W, frost hardy, will not tolerate drought
kanuka (<i>Kunzia ericoides</i>)	N, dry soils
kohuhu (<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>)	D, Q, N, F
kotukutuku (<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>)	T, D, N, F, S
kowhai (<i>Sophora microphylla</i>)	N, S, H, Z
lacebark (<i>Hoheria populnea</i> var. <i>sexstylosa</i>)	N, A
miro (<i>Stachypitys ferruginea</i>)	S, F
ngaio (<i>Myoporum laetum</i>)	N, F
nikau (<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>)	T, S, D, N, F, A
pigeonwood (<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>)	F
pukatea (<i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i>)	T, A
rewarewa (<i>Knightea excelsa</i>)	T, N
ribbonwood (<i>Plagianthus regius</i>)	A
rimu (<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>)	S, F, A, difficult to eco-source
tawa (<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>)	T, F
titoki (<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>)	F, A
tutu (<i>Coriaria arborea</i>)	F
Grass	
toetoe (<i>Cortaderia toetoe</i>)	S
Sedges	
<i>Carex gaudichaudiana</i>	W, S, A, moist soils
forest sedge (<i>Carex dissita</i>)	W, S, A, moist soils, tolerates shade
cutty grass (<i>Carex lessoniana</i>)	W, S, A, moist soils
<i>Carex geminata</i>	W, S, A, not suitable for home gardens
pukio (<i>Carex virgata</i>)	W, S, A
purei (<i>Carex secta</i>)	W, S, A
trip me up (<i>Carex flagellifera</i>)	W, S, A

This list is based on a report “Ecological restoration priorities for the Porirua catchment” written for Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, and Greater Wellington Regional Council by Paul Blaschke, Frances Forsyth and Clive Anstey, Blaschke and Rutherford Environmental Consultants.

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'Best Bets' species for restoration planting in the Porirua catchment

This is a list of suitable native plants for restoration planting in the Porirua catchment that are relatively easy to propagate and will establish easily. Many are hardy, colonising plants that can be found growing wherever natural disturbance such as landslips, windthrow or fire has occurred. Others are listed because they provide food for birds or because they will become important structural components of future ecosystems. All species are known to occur naturally in the catchment. As well as being excellent for revegetation projects many of these plants are also very handsome in a garden setting.

Important provisos: Make sure your restoration plants are eco-sourced (grown from seed of local, wild plant populations). Your council will assist you to source such plants.

The list suggests plants for a range of environments. Not every plant can be established and grown in all parts of the catchment. The growing zones column in the list should guide you in looking for appropriate things to plant in different places throughout the catchment. Further notes on cultivation and food value for birds are shown in column 3.

When planting in a floodway particular care must be taken that flood flows are not impeded. Use 2 metre high standard trees or other plants from the "riparian specialty" list below, all of which can tolerate flooding. All plants apart from sedges should be planted several metres back from the top of the stream bank. Note that swamp flax (*Phormium tenax*) is not suitable for planting in a floodway. Floodway plantings will need ongoing maintenance to prevent the build up of woody debris such as fallen branches. Any debris that might be gathered up by flood flows has the potential to cause a blockage downstream and to make flooding worse.

The list is not a full restoration guide. Further information can be found in the *Wellington Regional Native Plant Guide*: <http://www.bethedifference.gw.govt.nz/plantguide>

- Key to growing zones:**
- 1 = gullies and valleys - sunny
 - 2 = gullies and valleys - shady
 - 3 = hill slopes - north facing/sunny
 - 4 = hill slopes - south facing/shady
 - 5 = bluffy upper slopes

- Key to cultivation tips and value for birds:**
- A = alluvial, fertile soils
 - D = dioecious (male and female sexes on different plants) so several individuals, grown from seed not cuttings, are needed to ensure fruiting
 - F = fruit for birds, F* = fruit all year round
 - H = hardy
 - N = nectar for birds, N* = nectar all year round
 - Q = quick growing
 - R = riparian
 - S = sun-loving, canopy gaps and track edges
 - T = frost tender
 - W = water's edge or damp spots
 - Z = dry soils



"Best Bets" species for the Porirua catchment

Species	Growing zones*	Cultivation tips & bird value *see key on front page
Trees and shrubs		
akiraho (<i>Olearia paniculata</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	N, H
broadleaf (<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>)	5	T, D, F, H
cabbage tree (<i>Cordyline australis</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	H, F, N, S and partial shade, Z, W, soil holding ability
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	1, 2, 3, 4	D, F
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	T, D, F
five-finger (<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	Q, T, D, N, F*
hangehange (<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolium</i>)	1, 2	Dry shade
kahikatea (<i>Dacrycarpus dacridioides</i>)	1, 2	A, F, W, frost hardy, will not tolerate drought
kamahi (<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	N
kanono (<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>)	1, 2	D, F
kanuka (<i>Kunzia ericoides</i>)	1, 2	N
karamu (<i>Coprosma robusta</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Q, F
kawakawa (<i>Macropiper excelsum</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	T, F*
kohuhu (<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>)	1, 2	D, Q, N, F
koromiko (<i>Hebe stricta</i> var <i>Atkinsonii</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	N, S
kotukutuku (<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>)	1, 2	T, D, N, F, S
kowhai (<i>Sophora microphylla</i>)	1, 4	S, N
lacebark (<i>Hoheria populnea</i> var <i>sexstylosa</i>)	1, 2	Q, N
lancewood (<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	D, F, Z, H
lemonwood (<i>Pittosporum eugenoides</i>)	1, 2	D, Q, F, N
mahoe (<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	F
manuka (<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	N
mapou (<i>Myrsine australis</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	T, D, F
matai (<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>)	1, 2	S, F, frost hardy
miro (<i>Stachypitys ferruginea</i>)	1, 2	F, W, Z, drought intolerant
mountain horopito (<i>Pseudowintera colorata</i>)	4	F
ngaio (<i>Myoporum laetum</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	S, N, F
nikau (<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>)	1	A, T, S, and partial shade, D, N, F, W, H

northern rata (<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>)	3	S, N
<i>Olearia solandri</i>	3, 4, 5	T
puka (<i>Griselinia lucida</i>)	3, 5	D, F
putaputaweta (<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>)	1, 2, 3	F
ramarama (<i>Lophomyrtus bullata</i>)	1, 3	N, F, S
rewarewa (<i>Knightea excelsa</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	T, N
rimu (<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>)	1, 2, 3	A, S, F, W, problems eco-sourcing
rohutu (<i>Lophomyrtus obcordata</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4	N, F
swamp maire (<i>Syzygium maire</i>)	1, 2	Shallow muddy streams
titoki (<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>)	1, 2	D, F
totara (<i>Podocarpus totara</i>)	1, 2, 3	S, F, W, Z, frost hardy
tutu (<i>Coriaria arborea</i>)	1	S, F, streamside
wharangi (<i>Melicope ternata</i>)	1, 2	
wineberry (<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>)	1, 2, 3	D, Q, F
Grasses & sedges		
<i>Carex secta</i>	1, 2, 3	S, W
<i>Carex solandri</i>	1, 2, 3	S, W, tolerates shade
<i>Carex virgata</i>	1, 2, 3	S, W
Forsters sedge (<i>Carex forsteri</i>)	1, 2	W, S, A
<i>Gahnia pauciflora</i>	1, 2, 3	S, intolerant of root disturbance
mapere (<i>Gahnia setifolia</i>)	1, 2, 3	S, moist, well drained soils, intolerant of root disturbance
purei (<i>Carex flagellifera</i>)	1, 2, 3	S, W, tolerates light shade and moist soils
toetoe (<i>Cortaderia toetoe</i>)	1, 2, 3	S, H
toetoe (<i>Cortaderia fulvida</i>)	1, 2, 3	S, H
Herbs		
blueberry (<i>Dianella nigra</i>)	1, 2, 4	F, avoid full sun
harakeke, swamp flax (<i>Phormium tenax</i>)	1, 2	H, N, not suitable for floodways
kakaha (<i>Astelia fragrans</i>)	1, 2	D, N, F, dry shade
kowharawhara (<i>Astelia solandri</i>)	1, 2	D, N*, F*, well drained soil
mountain flax (<i>Phormium cookianum</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	H, N
rengarenga (<i>Arthropodium cirratum</i>)	1, 2	N, H, dry soils
spaniard (<i>Aciphylla squarrosa</i>)	1, 3, 5	S, D, H