# PLANT ME INSTEAD!





## **Acknowledgements**

Thank you to the following people and organisations who helped with the production of this booklet: Walter Boyce (EcoServices), Sue Jacobs (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), Mark Paget (Rotorua District Council), Kim McGrouther, Department of Conservation staff and Environment Bay of Plenty staff and contractors for input, information and advice; John Barkla, Jeremy Rolfe, Trevor James, John Clayton, Peter de Lange, John Smith-Dodsworth, John Liddle (Liddle Wonder Nurseries), Geoff Bryant, Clayson Howell, John Sawyer and others who provided photos; and Sonia Frimmel (What's the Story) for design and layout.

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 (native plants grown from local seed that will grow best in local conditions).

## 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	15
Climbers and vines	25
Shrubs, trees and palms	39
Aquatic weeds	60



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

## Bear's breeches (Acanthus mollis)



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...**





Groundcovers

and fillers

1)





Also consider: Lady's mantle (Alchemilla mollis)



## 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.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Kakaha (Astelia fragrans) Rengarenga (Arthropodium cirratum) Jovellana sinclairii





Also consider: Victorian Christmas bush (Prostrantha Iasianthos)



## Elephant's ear (Alocasia brisbanensis)



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...**





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







Also consider: Ligularia tussilaginea 'Martian Invader' Soloman's seal (Polygonatum biflorum)



3)

Groundcovers and fillers

## Heather (Calluna vulgaris)



Peterson

## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Tauhinu (Ozothamnus leptophylla) Tauhinu (Pomaderris phylicifolia) 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.

#### Breath of heaven (Coleonema album)



Also consider: Pink breath of heaven (*Coleonema pulchrum*) Rice flower (*Pimeleia spectabilis*) *Heuchera* 'Snowstorm'

> Groundcovers 4 and fillers

## Snow poppy (Eomecon chionantha)



Invasive perennial with long underground root systems and round, leathery leaves with waxy margins and reddish stems. White flowers with yellow centres are followed by windspread seed. Shade tolerant, and smothers small native plants as well as preventing their germination.

## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Geranium traversii Parahebe catarractae 'Snowcap' Swamp musk (Mazus radicans)

6 Groundcovers and fillers

#### Winter rose (Helleborus orientalis)





Also consider: Tiarella wherryi 'Spring Symphony'

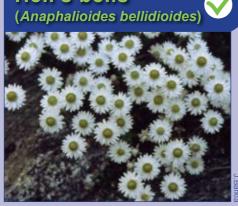
## Mexican daisy (Erigeron karvinskianus)



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





Also consider: Rauhuia (Linum monogynum) Anaphalis keriensis

#### Chamomile sunray (Rhodanthe anthemoides)



Also consider: Verbena peruviana Verbena x hybrids

> Groundcovers 6 and fillers

#### Artillery plant (Galeobdolon luteum)



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...**



7)

Groundcovers

and fillers

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

#### Mondo grass (Ophiopogon ecklonii)





Also consider: Liriope muscari 'Stripey White' Tiarella wherryi 'Spring Symphony'

## Chilean rhubarb (Gunnera tinctoria)



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...**



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

# Chinese rhubarb



Groundcovers 8 and fillers



## Yellow & kahili ginger (Hedychium species)



Yellow ginger (H.flavescens)



Kahili 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.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Harakeke (Phormium tenax) Puka (Meryta sinclarii)

Groundcovers

and fillers

9)



Also consider: *Hippeastrum* cultivars *Anigozanthos* species

## Chameleon plant (Houttynia cordata)



Deciduous creeping perennial, creeping herb up to 70cm tall. Heart-shaped, alternate leaves are multi-coloured yellow, green, bronze and scarlet. Shade tolerant. Spreads by both seeds and rhizome fragments and is shade tolerant. Covers large areas by creeping stolons and an extensive root system, rapidly displacing native plants in forest and wetland ecosystems.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Gunnera prorepens Kiokio (Blechnum novae-zelandiae)





Also consider: *Tiarella wherryi* 'Spring Symphony' Spanish shawl (*Heterocentron elegans*)

> Groundcovers 10 and fillers

#### Blue spur flower (Plectranthus ciliatus)



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...**



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

#### Heartleaf saxifrage (Bergenia cordifolia)



Also consider: Evergreen hydrangea (Dichroa versicolor) Fairy fan flower (Scavola aemula)

1) Groundcovers

and fillers

#### African club moss (Selaginella kraussiana)



**PLANT ME INSTEAD...** 



Also consider: Scleranthus biflorus True maidenhead fern (Adiantum aethiopicum) Alpine hard fern (Blechnum penna-marina) 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.

#### Dalmation bellflower (Campanula portenschlagiana)



Also consider: Moss campion (*Silene acaulis*) Woolly thyme (*Thymus pseudolanuginosus*)



## Tradescantia (Tradescantia fluminensis)



Succulent, creeping, dark green perennial groundcover. White threepetalled 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...**

#### **Panakenake** (Pratia angulata)



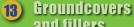
Also consider: Nertera (Nertera depressa) Maidenhead fern (Adiantum cunninghamii) Fuchsia procumbens Mercury Bay plant (Dichondra repens)







Also consider: Siberian bugloss (Brunnera macrophylla)



and fillers

## 🔨 Periwinkle (Vinca major)



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...**



Powhiwhi (*Calystegia tuguriorum*) Panakenake (*Pratia angulata*)

#### Speedwell (Veronica prostrata)



Also consider: Plumbago auriculata 'Royal Cape' Fairy fan flower (Scaevola aemula) Scabiosa columbaria 'Blue Butterfly'

> Groundcovers ( and fillers



#### Agapanthus (Agapanthus praecox)



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## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



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



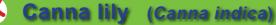
Robust, evergreen, clump-forming perennial to 60 centimetres tall with up to 20 wide leathery leaves on each shoot. Light blue or white flowers forming umbrella-shaped clusters are followed by seed spread by wind and water; it is also spread by the long, thick, underground stem system. Forms dense mats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

#### Turf lily (Liriope muscari





Also consider: Day lily (*Hemerocallis* species except *H. fulva*) Blue cape flower (*Plumbago capensis*) *Heliotropium arborescens* 





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...**



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



Also consider: Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)

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



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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...**



Also consider: Chionochloa flavicans Toetoe (Cortaderia fulvida)







Also consider: Hunangamoho (*Chionochloa conspicua*) Gossamer grass (*Anemanthele lessoniana*)

## Montbretia (Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora)



Evergreen or summer-green clumpforming perennial with bright green, sword-shaped leaves. Orangered 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...**



Also consider: Maori onion (*Bulbinella hookeri*) Poor Knight's lily (*Xeronema callistemon*)



Also consider: Barbados lily (*Hippeastrum puniceum*) Crown Imperial (*Fritillaria imperialis*)

Grasses, 18 bulbs and ferns



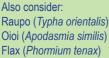
## 🗡 Yellow flag iris (Iris pseudacorus)



ewis

**PLANT ME INSTEAD...** 







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 floodprone pasture.

# us graminu Also consider:

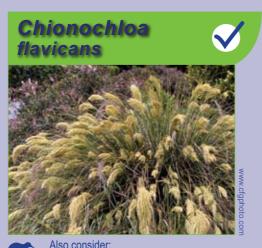
Blue iris (Iris versicolor)

## X Himalayan fairy grass (Miscanthus nepalensis)



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...**



Also consider: Chionochloa beddiei Toetoe (Cortaderia toetoe or C. fulvida)



Also consider: Oatgrass (Helictotrichon sempervirens)



## X Tuber ladder fern (Nephrolepis cordifolia)



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...**





Also consider: Piu piu (*Blechnum discolor*)











Also consider: Button fern (*Pellaea rotundifolia*) Hen and chicken fern (*Asplenium bulbiferum*)



Grasses, bulbs and ferns



#### Bamboo (Pseudosasa japonica)



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Medium-sized bamboo up to 5 metres tall 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. Bamboo grass (*Piptatherum miliaceum*), black bamboo (*Phyllostachys nigra*) and golden bamboo (*P.aurea*) are also weedy.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Cabbage tree (Cordyline australis) Flax (Phormium tenax)



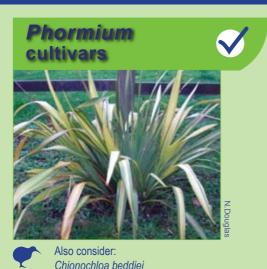
Also consider: Bambusa gracilis

#### Palm grass (Setaria palmifolia)



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 semishade, crowding out native grasses and low growing species.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**









Also consider: Red tussock (Chionochloa rubra)





## X Arum lily & Green goddess



#### (Zantedeschia aethiopica)

Robust, evergreen, clump-forming plant to 1.5 metres tall with large, leathery, arrowhead-shaped leaves. Trumpetshaped '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...**









Also consider: Calla lily (Zantedeschia rehmannii x elliottiana) Anigozanthos species Hemerocallis pink cultivars (except H. fulva)

Grasses, 2 bulbs and ferns

## Chocolate vine (Akebia quinata)



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...**





Climbers

and vines

Also consider: Akakiore (Parsonsia heterophylla) Kohia (Passiflora tetrandra)

#### Chilean bellflower (Lapageria rosea)







#### Mignonette vine (Anredera cordifolia)



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...**



Also consider: White rata (Metrosideros perforata)

# Climbing hydrangea (Hydrangea petiolaris)





#### Moth plant / cruel vine (Araujia sericifera)



# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**





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Climbers

and vines

Also consider: Clematis parviflora Clematis paniculata



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.



Also consider: Potato vine (Solanum jasminoides)



#### Asparagus species









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 pinkishwhite 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.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



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





Also consider: Firecracker vine (*Manettia luteorubra*) Silver veined creeper (*Parthenocissus henryana*)

> Climbers 🤇 and vines



## Greater bindweed (Calystegia sylvatica)



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**PLANT ME INSTEAD...** 





Climbers

and vines

Morning glory (Convolvulus cneorum)

Robust, sprawling, climbing perennial to 4 metres with large triangular or arrowshaped leaves and large, white, trumpetshaped flowers. Stems usually die down in winter, but an extensive underground rhizome system makes this weed difficult to control. Invades and smothers native

species in natural areas.





Also consider: Bower vine (Pandorea jasminoides) Star jasmine (Trachelospermum jasminoides)



## Cathedral bells (Cobaea scandens)



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...**





Also consider: White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*) Scarlet rata (*Metrosideros fulgens*)



Also consider: Sandpaper vine (*Petrea volubilis*)



## Mile-a-minute (Dipogon lignosus)

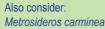


Climbing or scrambling perennial vine with three heart-shaped leaflets per leaf. Produces white to pink pea-like flowers followed by seedpods. Smothers low-growing native plants, eventually replacing them completely.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**

ewis





Climbers

and vines

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Purple coral pea (Hardenbergia violacea)





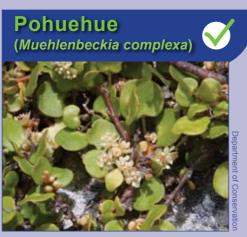
Also consider: Sky flower (*Thunbergia grandiflora*)

## K English ivy (Hedera helix)



Ivy is very tenacious and can creep along the ground forming a dense mat or just as easily climb way up into the trees. Stems can take root either on the ground or onto other plants, walls and fences. Ivy leaves are usually lobed but can vary in colour, size and shape, and the stems are light brown and woody.

## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**





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

# Climbing hydrangea (Hydrangea petiolaris)





## Blue morning glory (Ipomoea indica)



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....

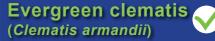


Also consider: Powhiwhi (*Calystegia tuguriorum*) Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*) Scrambling fuchsia (*Fuchsia perscandens*)

Climbers

and vines

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Also consider: Sky flower (*Thunbergia grandiflora*) Bluebell creeper (*Sollya fusiformis*) Clematis hybrids

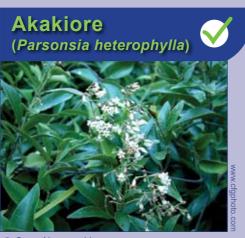
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### Jasmine (Jasminum polyanthum)



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...**





Also consider: Leafless clematis (Clematis afoliata) Kohia (Passiflora tetrandra)





Also consider: Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



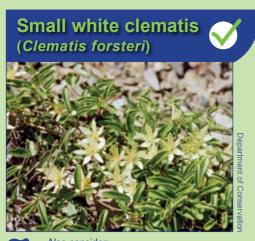
#### Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica)



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shrubs. English honeysuckle (Lonicera periclymenum), hedge honeysuckle (L. nitida) and L.x. americana are also weedy.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



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

#### White flowered banksia (Rosa banksiae)

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





Also consider: Snake vine (*Hibbertia scandens*)



Climbers

and vines

### Sanana passionfruit & Blue passionflower





#### (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. caerula*) 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...**



Also consider: Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*) Carmine rata (*Metrosideros carminea*)

#### Chilean bellflower (Lapageria rosea)







#### Climbing dock (Rumex sagittatus)



Low climbing or scrambling herb with a woody, tuberous, kumara-like rootstock and stems to 3 metres long. Reddish-green arrowheadshaped leaves, and spikes of small, attractive yellow-pink flowers followed by wind-spread seed. Develops into a smothering mass among native plants.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: horokaka native ice plant (Disphyma australe)

Climbers

and vines

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Purple coral pea (Hardenbergia violacea)





Also consider: Chillian bell flower (Lapageria rosea)



Senecio species

Cape ivy (Senecio angulatus)





Velvet groundsel (S. petasitis, aka Roldana petasitis)

Cape and German ivy are scrambling perennials with wiry to woody stems, fleshy, leathery leaves with coarse serrations on each edge. Velvet groundsel has large, velvety leaves. All have dense clusters of yellow, ragwort-like flowers followed by fluffy wind-spread seeds, and stems that take root where they touch the ground and scramble over low-growing plants.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*) White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)









### Monkey apple (Acmena smithii)



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Tree to 20 metres tall with bronze-purple new foliage and fleshy white or pinkymauve 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 (*Syzigium australe*) is closely related, looks very similar, and is also weedy.

## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



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

(1) Shrubs.

trees and palms

#### Sweet michelia (Michelia doltsopa)





Also consider: Michelia yunnanensis Giant dogwood (Cornus controversa)

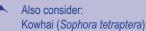
#### X Tree of heaven (Ailanthus altissima)

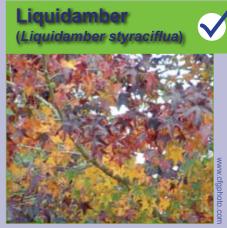


Fast-growing deciduous tree with leaves made up of smaller alternating leaflets that have a pungent smell when crushed. Yellow-green flowers are followed by large amounts of seed. Also spreads through an aggressive suckering root system that produces toxins that prevent other species establishing near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

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**







Also consider: Willow myrtle (*Agonis flexuosa*) Blue jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*)



Buddleia (Buddleia davidii)



Deciduous or semi-evergreen manystemmed 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...**



Also consider: Kawakakawa (Macropiper excelsum) Corokia buddleioides





Also consider: Luculia (Luculia gratissima) Beauty bush (Calliandra portoricensis) Texas mountain laurel (Sophora secundiflora)



Shrubs. trees and palms



#### **Cestrum** (Cestrum species)



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# PLANT ME INSTEAD...



Also consider: Kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*)

Shrubs or small trees to 4m tall with hairy or smooth leaves that are foul smelling when bruised. Tubular flowers (red, orange, green or white), often fragrant, are followed by berries containing seed. Grows vigorously, invades forest and other natural areas, and forms dense undergrowth that crowds out other species. All cestrum species are toxic to stock.



Also consider: *Correa reflexa* Fuchsia hybrids (not *F. magellanica*)





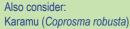
#### Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster franchetti / C. simonsii)



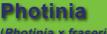
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### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**





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.







Also consider: Crepe myrtle (Lagerstroemia indica)



Shrubs. trees and palms



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...**



Titoki (Alectryon excelsus) Whau (Entelia arborescens) Northern rata (Metrosideros robusta)



Also consider: Sweet michelia (Michelia doltsopa) Kousa dogwood (Cornus kousa)



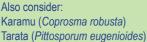
#### Elaeagnus (Elaeagnus x reflexa)

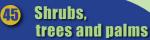


Long lived, vigorous scrambling vine with arching spiny stems to 20 metres long and oval leaves with metallic coloured undersides. Inconspicuous flowers are sometimes followed by oval orange to red fruit. Spreads by stem and root fragments, and occasionally seed, forming a dense blanket smothering native species and preventing access into recreational areas.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**







Silk tassel bus arrya elliptica



Also consider: Fragrant viburnum (Viburnum farreri) Photinia 'red robin'

Hydrangea (Hydrangea macrophylla



Shrub up to 3m tall with large shiny leaves. Large heads of blue, white or pink flowers in summer are followed by wind-blown seed. Hydrangeas adapt to most conditions and invade low light, moist areas such as river banks and bush gullies, crowding out other species.

## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**

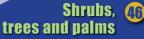


Also consider: Manuka (Leptospermum scoparium) Five finger (Pseudopanax arboreus)

#### Evergreen hydrangea (Dichroa versicolor)



Also consider: Blue cape flower (*Plumbago capensis*) Californian lilac (*Ceanothus papillosus*)



#### Wonder tree (Idesia polycarpa)



Deciduous pyramidal tree to 20m tall and up to 15m wide with male and female flowers on different trees. Female trees produce fragrant yellow green flowers followed by bunches of bright red berries that hang on the tree all winter. Seed is bird-spread. Invades natural bush areas and crowds out other species.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Kaikomako (Pennantia corymbosa) Karaka (Corynocarpus laevigatus) Rimu (Dacrydium cupressinum)



(1) Shrubs. trees and palms





Also consider: Honey locust (Gleditsia triacanthos) Judas tree (Cercis siliquastrum)



#### 🛇 Japanese walnut (Juglans ailantifolia)



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 rustcoloured 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...**





Also consider: Karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*) Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*)



Also consider: Hickory or pecan (*Carya* species)





Lantana (Lantana camara)



Prickly, many-branched, scrambling shrub to 3m tall with pungent smelling mid- to dark-green leaves. Clusters of flowers, generally yellow and pink but sometimes red or orange, are followed by birdspread 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. Frimme



Also consider: Coastal tree daisy (Olearia solandri) Heketara (Olearia rani)



Flame-of-thewoods (Ixora coccinea)



Also consider: Australian fuchsia (*Correa pulchella*) Common correa (*Correa reflexa*) Lion's tail (*Leonitis ocymifolia*)

### 🗡 Himalayan honeysuckle (Leycesteria formosa)



Deciduous or semi-evergreen perennial shrub to 2 or more metres with heartshaped 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...**



Also consider: Kawakawa (Macropiper excelsum)



Also consider: Taurepo (Rhabdothamnus solandri)

Shrubs, trees and palms





### Tree privet & Chinese privet (Ligustrum spp)



Tree privet (Ligustrum lucidum)



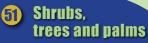
Chinese privet (L.sinense)

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.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Broadleaf (Griselinia littoralis) Hangehange (Geniostoma rupestre) Puahou (Pseudopanax arboreus)



**Port wine magnol** (Michelia figo)



Also consider: Bottlebrush (Callistemon pollandri 'Red Clusters') Camellia sasangua Michelia yunnanensis

### 🔨 Wattles (Paraserianthes & Acacia species),

Brush wattle (Paraserianthus lophantha)



Lewis

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

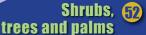




Also consider: Green mikimiki (*Coprosma virescens*) Manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) Kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*) Evergreen shrub to small tree with densely hairy, ribbed twigs and feathery blue-green leaves. Numerous pale yellow, brush-like flowers are followed by smooth surfaced pods containing black seeds. Invades natural areas, forming dense stands and displacing native trees.

# (Callistemon paludosus)





Phoenix palm (Phoenix canariensis)



tment 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...**



Also consider: Wheki ponga (Dicksonia fibrosa) Black tree fern (Cyathea medullaris)



Also consider: Soft tree fern (Cyathea smithii)



(file) Shrubs. trees and palms



#### Wild cherries (Prunus species)



Taiwan cherry (P. campanulata)



Taiwan cherry is a vase-shaped deciduous tree growing to 8 metres tall with pink bell-shaped flowers emerging before leaves in spring. Rum cherry grows to 20 metres tall and has long clusters of small white flowers at the ends of the branches in spring, followed by black berries. Both cherries invade bush areas and crowd out native plants.

# **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**







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



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### Evergreen buckthorn (Rhamnus alaternus)



Lewis

oval green leaves that have two small holes at the base either side of the midrib and corresponding bumps on the topside (the 'buckthorns'). Inconspicuous flowers are followed by bright red, bird-spread berries. Aggressive invader of coastal cliffs and forest margins and can form dense colonies that crowd out native plants.

Evergreen tree growing to 10 metres with

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**





55 Shrubs,

trees and palms

Also consider: Ramarama (Lophomyrtus bullata) Corokia buddleioides





Also consider: Weeping fig (*Ficus benjamina*) *Grewia occidentalis* 



#### False acacia (Robinia pseudoacacia)



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.

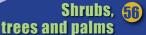
### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Mapou (*Myrsine australis*) Kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*)



Also consider: Honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) Blue jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*)





C.Lewis

### Woolly nightshade (Selanum mauritianum)

Small tree growing to 10 metres with large, furry, pungent, greyish leaves. Clusters of purple flowers with yellow centres develop into yellow, marblesized, 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.

### **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Broadleaf (Griselinia littoralis) Red mapou (Myrsine australis)



🕣 Shrubs, trees and palms





Also consider: Tibouchina granulosa Round leafed mint bush (Prostanthera rotundifolium)

X

#### Rice paper plant (Tetrapanax papyriferus)



## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**



Also consider: Scented or weeping broom (Carmichaelia odorata or C. stevensonii) Five-finger (Pseudopanax arboreus)



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

Also consider: Restio tetraphyllus





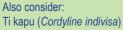
### Chinese fan palm (Trachycarpus fortunei)



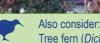
Palm growing to 12 metres tall with large circular leaves and trunk covered in coarse fibre. Flowers emerging from a packet-like bud are followed by blue round or oblong bird-spread fruits in summer. Establishes as mature trees in native forests, replacing the native nikau and outcompeting native understorey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

## **PLANT ME INSTEAD...**









Also consider: Tree fern (*Dicksonia fibrosa*)





### Hornwort (Ceratophyllum demersum)





Submerged freshwater plant with finely divided leaves with toothed edges making them rough to the touch. New plants form from each piece of brittle stem. Rapidly invades still and flowing waters, crowding out native species, and blocking irrigation and drainage channels and hydro dams.

#### 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.

#### Water hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipes)



Shiny rounded leaves with buoyant, bladder-like bases form free-floating rosettes with a long tail of feathery roots. Produces striking upright lilac and purple flowers with a golden centre. Rapidly forms dense mats that smother waterways, reduce oxygen in the water, and prevent other aquatic plants establishing.

> Wetland and aquatic weeds





### Elodea (Elodea canadensis)



Submerged freshwater perennial with dark green leaves arranged in whorls of 4 to 6 around the stems. Grows in mainly still or slow moving waterways, and rapidly forms dense mats that shade out native species, and block irrigation and drainage channels and hydroelectric dams.

### MIN

#### Lagarosiphon (Lagarosiphon major)





Submerged bottom-rooting perennial. 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.

### Parrot's feather (Myriophyllum aquaticum)





Perennial freshwater plant with distinctive, feathery, blue-green leaves in whorls of five to six, each divided into 20-30 leaflets. Takes root at the bottom of waterways and forms dense sprawling mats that clog channels.

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**61**)

Wetland and aquatic weeds



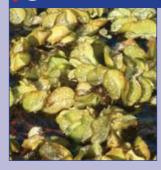
### Mexican water lily (Nymphaea mexicana)



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. *Nymphaea alba* is also a problem.



#### Salvinia (Salvinia molesta)





Free-floating fern which fragments easily to form new plants and spreads rapidly, doubling the area it covers in a few weeks. Topsides of the leaves are covered in water-repellant, basketlike hairs. Forms dense deep mats smothering waterways and prevent other waterplants establishing.

> Wetland and 62 aquatic weeds



#### California rush (Schoenoplectus californicus)



Wetland rush that grows to 2 metres tall with brown seedheads that hang from their stems. Invades waterbodies and restricts waterflow.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD....

### Water milfoil (Myriophyllum propinquum)



Water milfoil is a native alternative to aquatic weeds such as parrot's feather.

#### **Red pond weed** (Potamogeton cheesemanii)



Red pond weed is a native alternative to floating aquatic weeds such as salvinia and water hyacinth. Another native alternative is swamp lily (*Ottelia ovalifolia*).

#### Raupo (Typha orientalis)



aquatic weeds

Raupo is a native alternative to marginal aquatic and wetlands weeds such as Californian rush. Another native alternative is flax (*Phormium* species).



#### Groundcovers and fillers

Bear's breeches	Acanthus mollis	1
Mistflower / Mexican Devil	Ageratina riparia / A.adenophora	2
Elephant's ear	Alocasia brisbanensis	3
Heather	Calluna vulgaris	4
Snow poppy	Eomecon chionantha	5
Mexican daisy	Erigeron karvinskianus	6
Artillery plant	Galeobdolon luteum	7
Chilean rhubarb	Gunnera tinctoria	8
Yellow & kahili ginger	Hedychium species	9
Chameleon plant	Houttynia cordata	10
Blue spur flower	Plectranthus ciliatus	11
African club moss	Selaginella kraussiana	12
Tradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis	13
Periwinkle	Vinca major	14

#### Grasses, bulbs and ferns

Agapanthus	Agapanthus praecox	15
Canna lily	Canna indica	16
Pampas	Cortaderia selloana, C. jubata	17
Montbretia	Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora	18
Yellow flag iris	Iris pseudacorus	19
Himalayan fairy grass	Miscanthus nepalensis	20
Tuber ladder fern	Nephrolepis cordifolia	21
Bamboo	Pseudosasa japonica	22
Palm grass	Setaria palmifolia	23
Arum lily / green goddess	Zantedeschia species	24

#### Climbers and vines

Chocolate vine	Ake
Mignonette vine	Anre
Moth plant	Arau
Asparagus species	
Greater bindweed	Caly
Cathedral bells	Cob
Mile-a-minute	Dipo
English ivy	Hed
Blue morning glory	Ipon
Jasmine	Jasr

Akebia quinata	25
Anredera cordifolia	26
Araujia sericifera	27
	28
Calystegia sylvatica	29
Cobaea scandens	30
Dipogon lignosus	31
Hedera helix	32
Ipomoea indica	33
Jasminum polyanthum	34

Japanese honeysuckle	Lonicera japonica
Banana passionfruit	Passiflora species
Blue passionflower	
Climbing dock	Rumex sagittatus
Cape and German ivy,	Senecio species
velvet groundsel	

35

36

37

38

#### Trees and palms

Monkey apple	Acmena smithii	39
Tree of heaven	Ailanthus altissima	40
Buddleia	Buddleia davidii	41
Cestrum	Cestrum species	42
Cotoneaster	C franchetti / C. simonsii	43
Strawberry dogwood	Dendrobenthamia capitata	44
Elaeagnus	Elaeagnus reflexa	45
Hydrangea	Hydrangea macrophylla	46
Wonder tree	ldesia polycarpa	47
Japanese walnut	Juglans ailantifolia	48
Lantana	Lantana camara	49
Himalayan honey suckle	Leycesteria formosa	50
Privet	Ligustrum species	51
Wattles	Paraserianthes and acacia	52
Phoenix palm	Phoenix canariensis	53
Wild cherries	Prunus species	54
Evergreen buckthorn	Rhamnus alaternus	55
False acacia	Robinia pseudoacacia	56
Woolly nightshade	Solanum mauritianum	57
Rice paper plant	Tetrapanax papyriferus	58
Chinese fan palm	Trachycarpus fortunei	59

#### Aquatic weeds

Hornwort	Cerataphyllum demersum	60
Egeria	Egeria densa	60
Water hyacinth	Eichhornia crassipes	60
Elodea	Elodea canadensis	61
Lagarosiphon	Lagarosiphon major	61
Parrots feather	Myriophyllum aquaticum	61
Water lily	Nymphaea mexicana & N. alba	62
Salvinia	Salvinia molesta	62
California rush	Schoenoplectus californicus	62

### Proudly supporting Weedbusters

