

PLANT ME INSTEAD!

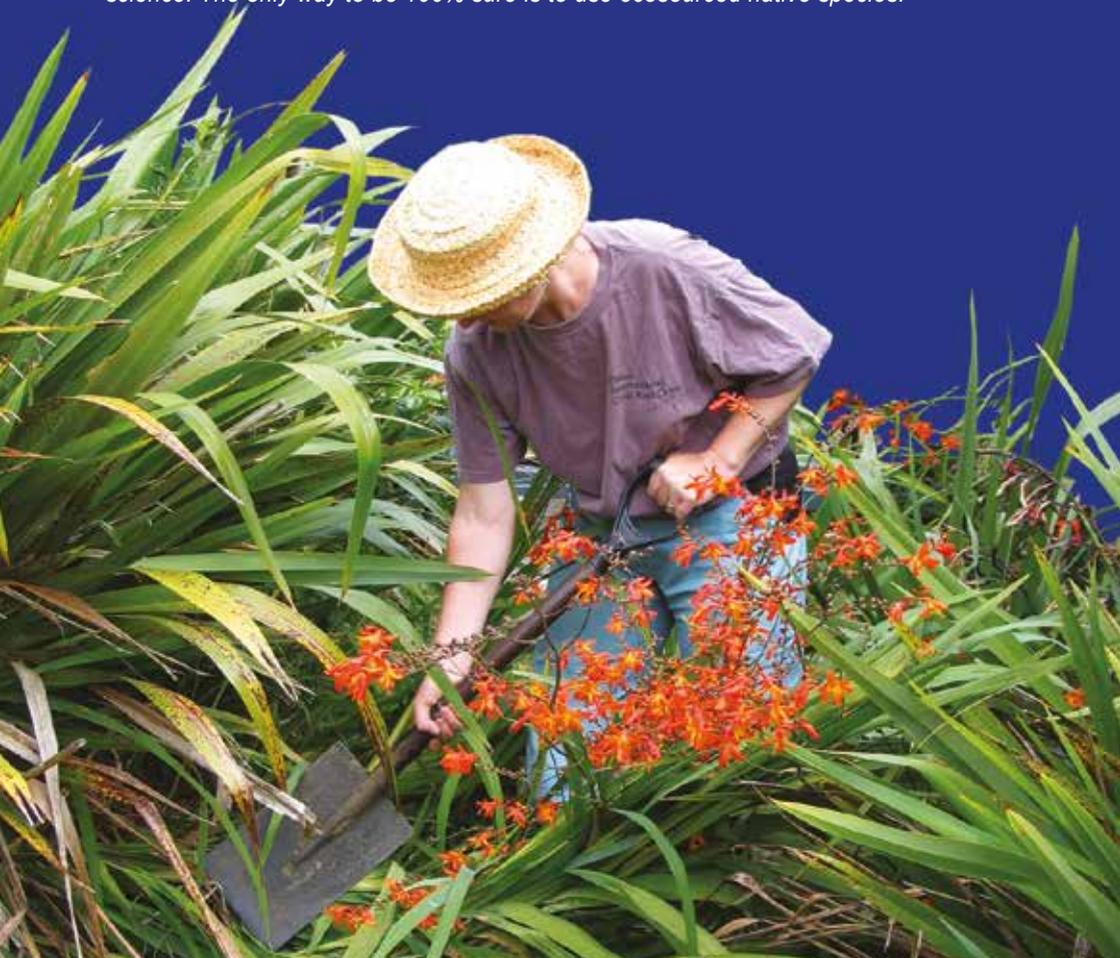


AUCKLAND

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

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Look for the kiwi – New Zealand'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...

Piu piu

(*Blechnum discolor*)



B.Smith, DOC



Also consider:
Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)
Arthropodium bifurcatum

Lady's mantle

(*Alchemilla mollis*)



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Also consider:
Ligularia reniformis
Perlagonium

1

Groundcovers
and fillers

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 banksii*)
Jovellana sinclairii / *J. repens*

Flannel flower (*Phyllica plumosa*)



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Also consider:
Victorian Christmas bush (*Prostrantha lasianthos*)
Jovellana violacea

Groundcovers
and fillers

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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:

Pimelea urvilleana or *P. aridula*
Rauhuia (*Linum monogynum*)
Parahebe catarractae or *P. lyallii*

Chamomile sunray

(*Rhodanthe anthemoides*)



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Also consider:

Helichrysum species
Swan River daisy (*Brachyscome multifida*)

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Groundcovers
and fillers

GARDEN ESCAPEE



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. *H. gardnerianum* spreads by seeds and root fragments, while *H. 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...

Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)



S. Frimmel



Also consider:
Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)
Carex virgata

Bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*)



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Also consider:
Banana (*Musa ornata*)
Kangaroo paw (*Angiozanthos* species)

Groundcovers
and fillers

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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:
Pānakenake (*Pratia angulata*)
Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum aethiopica*)

Winter rose

(*Helleborus orientalis*)



www.cqphoto.com

Also consider:
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

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Groundcovers
and fillers

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...

Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)



R. Morris, DOC



Also consider:

Powhiwhi (*Calystegia tuguriorum*)

Panekeneke (*Lobelia angulata*)

Speedwell (*Veronica prostrata*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:

Fairy fan flower (*Scavola aemula*)

Scabiosa columbaria 'Blue Butterfly'

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. Also spread by long, thick, underground stems. Forms dense mats that exclude native species, and seedlings easily outcompete young native plants in warm, dry places.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:

Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)

Mikoikoi (*Libertia ixiodes*)

Wharariki (*Phormium cookianum*)

Turf lily (*Liriope muscari*)



C. Lewis

Also consider:

Day lily (*Heemerocallis* species, except *H. fulva*)

Nerine species

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Aristea (*Aristea ecklonii*)



C. Lewis

Evergreen, clumping, iris-like perennial to 45 centimetres tall with woody rhizomes. Leaves are sword-shaped, folded and in reddish-purple-based fans. Clusters of small, three-petalled, deep blue flowers up the stem are followed by 2 centimetre long seed capsules containing flat, dark reddish-brown seeds. Grows in a wide range of habitats and crowds out desirable plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Tukauki (*Libertia grandiflora*)



R.Morris, DOC



Also consider:
Oioi (*Apodasmia similis*)
Poor Knight's lily (*Xeronema callistemon*)

Blue iris (*Iris setosa*)



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Also consider:
Blue Dutch iris (*Iris xiphium*)
Walking iris (*Neomarica gracilis*)

Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



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



C. Lewis

Large perennial clump-forming grass to 5 metres tall with large, upright, fluffy flowers. Leaves are narrow and sharp-edged. 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...

Chionochloa flavicans



www.cfgphoto.com



Also consider:
Northland toetoe (*Austroderia splendens*)

Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)



S. Frimmel



Also consider:
Hunangamoho (*Chionochloa conspicua*)

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

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 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...

Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)
Poor Knight's lily (*Xeronema callistemon*)

Hemerocallis 'Amber Glow'



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

Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

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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...

Piu piu (*Blechnum discolor*)



A. Townshend



Also consider:
Kiokio (*Blechnum novae-zelandiae*)

Blechnum gibbum 'Silver Lady'



Northland Regional Council



Also consider:
Shield fern (*Polystichium neozelandicum*)
King fern (*Ptisana salicina*)

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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...

Phormium cultivars



N.Douglas



Also consider:
Cordyline pumilio
Gossamer grass (*Anemanthele lessoniana*)

Aspidistra (*Aspidistra elatior*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:
Cordyline rubra
Curculigo capitulata

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, modified, greenish-white 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:
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)
Astelia fragrans

Hosta species



C.Lewis

Also consider:
Calla lily (*Zantedeschia rehmannii* x *elliottiana*)
Kangaroo paw (*Angiozanthos* species)

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Madeira 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. Spikes of sweetly scented white flowers. Smothers or replaces native plants in natural areas. Also known as mignonette vine.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)



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Also consider:
White rātā (*Metrosideros perforatā*)

Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



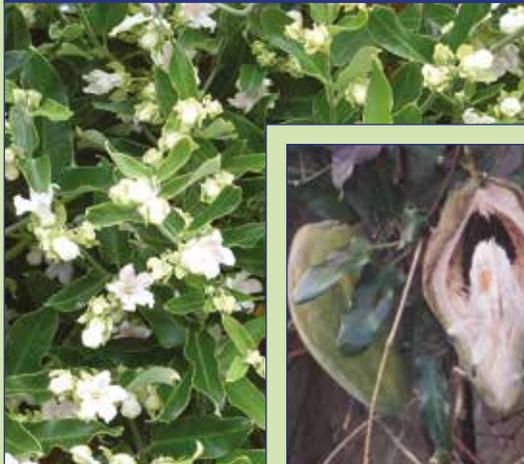
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Also consider:
Snail vine (*Phaseolus caracalla*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Moth plant / cruel vine (*Araujia hortorum*)



C.Lewis

Slender evergreen vine climbing to 6m 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 known as *Araujia sericifera*.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Puawānanga (*Clematis paniculata*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Clematis parviflora
Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)

Tweedia (*Tweedia caerulea*)



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Also consider:
Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)

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Climbers
and vines

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Asparagus group (*Asparagus species*)



Asparagus scandens



Asparagus aethiopicus



Asparagus asparagoides

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 discourage access through infested areas. This weed group does not include edible asparagus.

C. Lewis (all)

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Pōhuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:

Rosy maidenhair (*Adiantum hispidulum*)

Hen and chickens fern (*Asplenium bulbiferum*)

Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:

Firecracker vine (*Manettia luteorubra*)

Silver veined creeper (*Parthenocissus henryana*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Greater bindweed (*Calystegia sylvatica*)

Department of Conservation



Robust, sprawling, climbing perennial to 4 metres with large triangular or arrow-shaped leaves and large, white, trumpet-shaped 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.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Creeping fuchsia (*Fuchsia procumbens*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Native bindweed (*Calystegia tuguriorum*)

Star jasmine

(*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cdgphoto.com

Also consider:
Bower vine (*Pandorea jasminoides*)

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Climbers
and vines

GARDEN ESCAPEE



German ivy (*Delairea odorata*)



C.Lewis

Perennial, scrambling or climbing herb, sometimes forming a dense tangled shrub up to 2m tall. Glossy, ivy-shaped leaves are thin and clammy. Conspicuous yellow, daisy-like flowers are in loose clusters. Prefers dry or damp, open sites. Spreads by runners, and fragments, and also wind-dispersed seeds.

The weedy Cape ivy (*Senecio angulatus*) is very similar, but has thicker leaves and more woody stems.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

White rātā (*Metrosideros perforatā*)



J.Taylor, DOC



Also consider:

Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)

Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)

Banksia rose (*Rosa banksia* 'Luteum')



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:

Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)

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...

Rātā

(*Metrosideros fulgens*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Puawānanga (*Clematis paniculata*)
Pōhuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*)

Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:
Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)

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...

NZ bindweed (*Calystegia tuguriorum*)



S. Crump



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

Evergreen clematis (*Clematis arandii*)



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Also consider:
Bluebell creeper (*Sollya fusiformis*)

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. Italian jasmine (*Jasminum humile*) is also weedy.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)
Kōhia (*Passiflora tetrandra*)

Star jasmine

(*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



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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...

Kōhia (*Passiflora tetrandra*)



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Also consider:
Northland clematis (*Clematis cunninghamii*)
NZ jasmine (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)

Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:
Rosa banksia 'Luteum'

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Climbing dock (*Rumex sagittatus*)



C. Lewis

Low climbing or scrambling herb with a woody, tuberous, kumara-like rootstock and stems to 3 metres long. Reddish-green arrowhead-shaped 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...

Pōhuehue

(*Muehlenbeckia complexa*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Carmine rātā (*Metrosideros carminea*)
Horokaka (*Disphyma australe*)

Purple coral pea

(*Hardenbergia violacea*)



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Also consider:
Chilean bellflower (*Lapageria rosea*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Wattles (*Acacia* species)



Black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*)

C.Howell, DOC

Evergreen shrubs to small trees with ribbed or angled twigs that are sometimes hairy. Leaves are feathery or broad and flat. Numerous or single yellow brush like or small rounded flowers are followed by smooth surfaced pods containing numerous black seeds. Some species have spines also. Invades natural areas forming dense stands and displacing native trees. Extremely hardy.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kōwhai (*Sophora microphylla*)



A.J.Townsend



Also consider:
Green mikimiki (*Coprosma virescens*)
Kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*)

Lemon bottlebrush (*Callistemon paludosus*)



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Also consider:
Silk tree (*Albizia julibrissin*)
Cajeput tree (*Melaleuca linariifolia*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)



C.Howell, DOC

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...

Shrub daisy (*Brachyglottis greyi*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Carmichaelia williamsii
Pachystegia insignis

Genista 'Yellow Imp'



J.Liddle

Also consider:
Grey haired euryops (*Euryops pectinatus*)
Stobilanthes gossypinus

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Shrubs,
trees and palms

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...

Korokia (*Corokia cotoneaster*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Karamū (*Coprosma robusta*)
Coastal mahoe (*Meliclytus novae-zelandiae*)

Photinia (*Photinia x fraseri* 'Red Robin')



C.Lewis

Also consider:
Crepe myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Elaeagnus (*Elaeagnus x reflexa*)



C. Lewis

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. Forms a dense blanket smothering native species and preventing access into recreational areas.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Tarātā / Lemonwood (*Pittosporum eugenioides*)



K. Broome



Also consider:
Pittosporum umbellatum
Karamū (*Coprosma robusta*)

Silk tassel bush (*Garrya elliptica*)



www.cigphoto.com

Also consider:
Fragrant viburnum (*Viburnum farreri*)
Photinia x fraseri 'Red Robin'

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Shrubs,
trees and palms

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*)



C. Lewis

Tree to 8 metres high with large leaves near branch tips. Stout oval leaves are crinkled, dark glossy green above with a thin grey to brown mat of soft hairs on the underside. Hairy oval fruits ripen to yellow and are edible. Seeds are spread by birds.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Puriri (*Vitex lucens*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Tawapou (*Pouteria costata*)
Coastal maire (*Nestegis apetala*)

Camellia sasanqua 'Yuletide'



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Also consider:
Feijoa (*Feijoa sellowiana*)
Citrus species

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Japanese spindletree (*Euonymus japonica*)



C.Lewis

Shrub or small tree. Grows to 7 metres tall. Leaves usually dark green (but sometimes variegated), glossy and up to 7 centimetres long. Clusters of small, greenish flowers later produce orange-red fruits. An invader of open forests, margins, dunes and waste places. Spread by birds.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Corokia (*Corokia cotoneaster*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Red māpou (*Myrsine australis*)
Ramarama (*Lophomyrtus bullata*)

Camellia sasanqua 'Yuletide'



www.cjphoto.com

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

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...

Pāpāuma (*Griselinia littoralis*)



R. Stanley, DOC



Also consider:
Hangehange (*Genistoma rupestre*)
Houhere (*Hoheria populnea*)

Port wine magnolia (*Michelia figo*)



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Also consider:
Camellia sasanqua
Bottlebrush (*Callistemon pollandri* 'Red Clusters')

Shrubs,
trees and palms

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GARDEN ESCAPEE



Sweet pea shrub (*Polygala myrtifolia*)



C. Lewis

Perennial shrub up to 2 metres tall, with light green oval leaves. Pinky-purple pea-like flowers with a white outside petal are followed by hairy dark brown seeds in a winged capsule. Particularly a problem in coastal areas, where it suppresses and inhibits native plant establishment.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Kōwhai (*Sophora prostrata*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Hebe species
Tarangahape (*Carmichaelia glabrescens*)

Mexican bush sage (*Salvia leucantha*)



www.cifphoto.com

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

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Shrubs,
trees and palms

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Phoenix palm (*Phoenix canariensis*)

Department of Conservation



Hardy, slow-growing palm growing 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 ornamental clusters of orange-yellow, date-like, 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.dfgphoto.com



Also consider:
Wheki ponga (*Dicksonia fibrosa*)
Mamaku (*Cyathea medullaris*)

Queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:
Jelly palm (*Butia capitata*)

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*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Makamaka (*Ackama rosifolia*)
Kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*)

Weeping silver pear (*Pyrus salicifolia* 'Pendula')



www.cqphoto.com

Also consider:
Crabapple (*Malus floribunda*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Evergreen buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*)



C.Lewis

Evergreen tree growing to 10 metres with 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.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Karamū (*Coprosma lucida*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Karamū (*Coprosma robusta*)
Puka (*Griselinia lucida*)
Makomako / wineberry (*Aristotelia serrata*)

Orange blossom (*Choisya ternata*)



J.Liddle

Also consider:
Japanese skimmia (*Skimmia japonica*)

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, marbled, 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...

Puka (*Meryta sinclarii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Puka (*Griselinia lucida*)
Poroporo (*Solanum aviculare*)

Glory bush (*Tibouchina granulosa*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:
Big leaf magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Monkey apple (*Syzygium smithii*)

Department of Conservation



Tree up to 20 metres tall with bronze-purple new foliage and white or pinky-mauve fleshy 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...

Titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*)



P. de Lange



Also consider:

Wharangi (*Melicope ternata*)

Kaikōmako (*Pennantia corymbosa*)

Sweet michelia (*Michelia doltsopa*)



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Also consider:

Photina x fraseri 'Red Robin'

Camellia sasanqua

GARDEN ESCAPEES - watch for these!

These weeds are not as common as others featured in this book, but they are starting to move from gardens into natural areas. Keep an eye out for them, and remove them if you find them growing in your property.



Bangalow palm



A. Townshend

(Archontophoenix cunninghamiana)

Tall palm with long, straight leaf base
Leaves are Y-shaped when young. Mature palms have a distinctive 'skirt' of flowers followed by small red fruit spread by birds. Shade-tolerant when young, and invades native forest.



Giant reed (*Arundo donax*)



C. Lewis

Perennial, clump-forming, bamboo-like grass to at least 8 metres tall with a dense root mass and short rhizomes. Stems are erect, and leaves are blueish- or yellow-green, and seedheads are fluffy. Prefers areas where the soil does not dry out completely. Spread by rhizomes, seed and occasionally broken stems.

GARDEN ESCAPEES - watch for these!



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.

C. Lewis



Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)



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 growing on margins of water bodies and can invade flood-prone pasture.

C. Lewis



Pitted crassula (*Crassula multicava*)



Low growing succulent that competes with native species, forming dense mats. Grows well on open and rocky sites and spreads by small 'plantlets' formed after flowering.

C. Lewis

GARDEN ESCAPEES - watch for these!



Lantana (*Lantana camara*)



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.

C. Lewis



African clubmoss (*Selaginella kraussiana*)



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.

D. O'Halloran, DOC



Fan palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*)



Palm growing to 12 metres 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.

Department of Conservation

Ground covers and fillers

Bear's breeches	<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	1
Mistflower & Mexican devil	<i>Ageratina</i> species	2
Mexican daisy	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	3
Yellow & kahili ginger	<i>Hedychium</i> species	4
Tradescantia	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	5
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	6

Grasses, bulbs and ferns

Agapanthus	<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>	7
Aristea	<i>Aristea ecklonii</i>	8
Pampas grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i> , <i>C. jubata</i>	9
Montbretia	<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora</i>	10
Tuber ladder fern	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	11
Palm grass	<i>Setaria palmifolia</i>	12
Arum lily & green goddess	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	13

Climbers and vines

Madeira vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	14
Moth plant/cruel vine	<i>Araujia sericifera</i>	15
Asparagus	<i>Asparagus</i> species	16
Greater bindweed	<i>Calystegia sylvatica</i>	17
German ivy	<i>Delairea odorata</i>	18
Common ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	19
Blue morning glory	<i>Ipomaea indica</i>	20
Jasmine	<i>Jasminum polyanthum</i>	21
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	22
Climbing dock	<i>Rumex sagittatus</i>	23

Trees, shrubs and palms

Wattles	<i>Acacia</i> species	24
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	25
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster</i> species	26
Elaeagnus	<i>Elaeagnus x reflexa</i>	27
Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	28
Japanese spindle tree	<i>Euonymus japonica</i>	29
Privet (Chinese & tree)	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> , <i>L. lucidum</i>	30
Phoenix palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	31
Taiwan cherry	<i>Prunus campanulata</i>	32
Evergreen buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	33
Woolly nightshade	<i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	34
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Weed watch!

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African clubmoss	<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	39
Chinese fan palm	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>	39



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