

# PLANT ME INSTEAD!

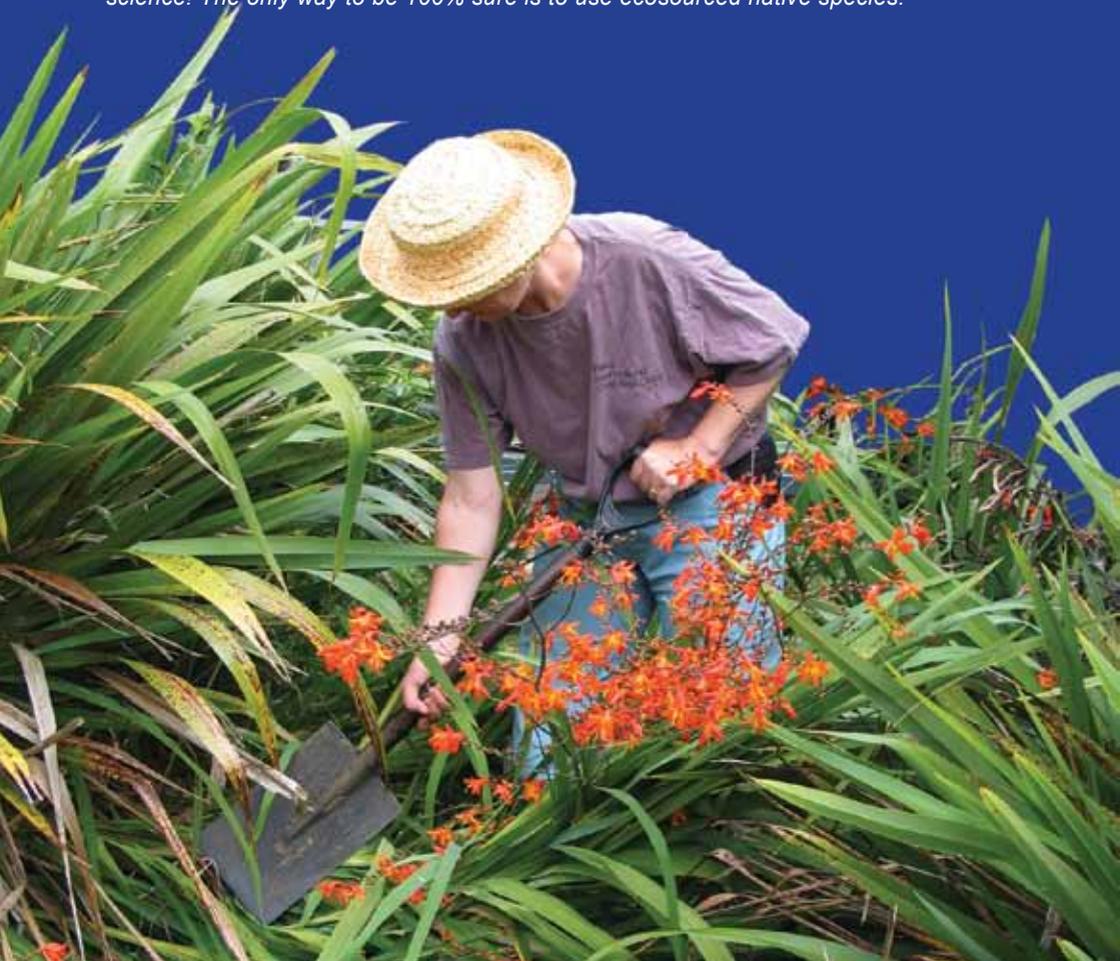


## NORTHLAND

# 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](http://www.weedbusters.org.nz)



## Know what's weedy

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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...

## Piu piu (*Blechnum discolor*)



B. Smith, DOC



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

## Lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Ligularia reniformis*  
Perlargonium

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Century plant (*Agave americana*)



C.Lewis

Tough succulent with grey leaves with spiked edges and very tall flowerspikes that produce large amounts of seed. Also reproduces by growing 'pups' from the base that can then form separate plants. Invades sand dunes, cliff areas, rocky outcrops, estuaries and wetlands where it impacts on human access and crowds out native species.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:  
Poor Knight's lily (*Xeronema calistemon*)  
Kauri grass (*Astelia* species)

## Aloe (*Aloe thraskii*)



A.J. Townshend

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

Groundcovers  
and fillers

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# 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*)



www.dgphoto.com

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

# 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...

## Harakeke (*Phormium tenax*)



S. Fimmel



Also consider:  
Three King's kawakawa  
(*Macropiper melchior*/*M. psittacorum*)  
Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*)

## Leopard plant (*Ligularia tussilaginea*)



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Also consider:  
Chinese rhubarb (*Rheum palmatum*)  
*Polygonatum* cultivars

Groundcovers  
and fillers

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# 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*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*)



J. Bartkja

Perennial groundcover with stems to 6 metres long. Leaves have obvious three sharp angles to them, and the pale yellow flowers turn pink as they age and are followed by seeds. Also spreads by stem fragments taking root. Usually found in coastal areas, where it forms dense mats once established. Areas of low growing plants are particularly at risk to invasion by ice plant.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Horokaka (*Disphyma australe*)



R. Stanley, DOC



Also consider:  
NZ spinach (*Tetragonia trigyna*)

## Livingstone daisy (*Dorotheanthus bellidiformis*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Mesembryanthemum* 'Crimson Glory'  
*Grevillia gaudichaudii*

# 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*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:

*Helichrysum* species

Swan river daisy (*Brachyscome multifida*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Chilean rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*)



C. Lewis

Perennial with large, rough, rhubarb-like leaves up 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:  
Kioiio (*Blechnum novaezelandia*)  
*Astelia chathamica*

### Chinese rhubarb (*Rheum palmatum*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Hosta* species and cultivars  
*Ligularia reniformis*

Groundcovers  
and fillers

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# 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. Fimmel



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

## Bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*)



www.criphoto.com

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

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Groundcovers  
and fillers

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Artillery plant (*Lamium galeobdolon*)



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 linifolia*

## Mondo grass (*Ophiopogon ecklonii*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Liriope muscari* 'Stripey White'  
Foamflower (*Tiarella wherryi* 'Spring Symphony')

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Bamboo (*Phyllostachys aureus*)



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...

## Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)



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Also consider:  
Horoeka (*Pseudopanax crassifolius*)  
*Pittosporum* species

## Cape reed (*Elegia capensis*)



S.Brill

Also consider:  
Clumping bamboos  
*Russelia equisetiformis*

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Groundcovers  
and fillers

# 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*)

## Evergreen hydrangea (*Dichroa versicolor*)



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Also consider:  
Fairy fan flower (*Scaevola aemula*)  
*Strobilanthes gossypinus* 'Persian shield'

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## African clubmoss (*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...

## Hairy nertera (*Nertera dichondrifolia*)



A.J. Townsend



Also consider:  
Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum aethiopicum*)  
*Scleranthus biflorus*

## Dalmatian bellflower (*Campanula portenschlagiana*)



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

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Groundcovers  
and fillers

# 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 aethiopicum*)

## Winter rose (*Helleborus orientalis*)



www.cfpphoto.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...

## Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)



R.Morris, DOC



Also consider:  
Powhiwhi (*Calystegia tuguriorum*)  
Panekeneke (*Lobelia angulata*)

## Speedwell (*Veronica prostrata*)



www.cifphoto.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 (*Hemerocallis* species, except *H. fulva*)

*Nerine* species

Grasses,  
bulbs and ferns

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# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Aristea (*Aristea ecklonii*)



C.J.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*)



www.cifphoto.com

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

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## 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.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:  
Kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*)  
Rush (*Juncus pallidus*)

## Pencil willow

(*Salix humboldtiana* cv *Chilensis*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:  
Sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum*)  
Blue bamboo (*Himalayacalamus hookerianus*)

# 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. Fimmel



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 Knights 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



## Stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*)



C. Lewis

Iris with dull yellow flowers followed by lots of scarlet seed capsules which are spread by birds. The leaves smell foul when crushed. Tolerates a range of conditions, including shade, and will form dense clumps that crowd out other vegetation.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Phormium cultivars



N. Douglas



Also consider:  
Umbrella sedge (*Cyperus ustularus*)  
Pukio (*Carex secta*)

## Cape reed (*Elegia capensis*)



S. Brill

Also consider:  
*Hemerocallis* 'Amber Glow'  
Plume rush (*Restio tetraphyllus*)

# 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.cfphoto.com



Also consider:  
Northland toetoe (*Austroderia splendens*)  
Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)

## Blue fescue (*Festuca glauca*)



www.cfphoto.com

Also consider:  
Blue oatgrass (*Helictotrichon sempervirens*)  
Plume rush (*Restio tetraphyllus*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Mexican feather grass (*Nassella tenuissima*)



C. Lewis

Also known as fine-stemmed needle grass. Densely tufted perennial tussock grass growing to 70 centimetres with fibrous roots and smooth, round, hairless stems with lower sections in a leaf-like sheath. Leaves are numerous and tightly rolled. Flowerheads often only partially emerge from the enclosing sheath. Hardy and drought tolerant, capable of invading pasture and open sites to crowd out native species. *Nassella* tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) is also a serious weed.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Pukio (*Carex virgata*/*C. secta*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:  
Northland tussock (*Chionochoa bromoides*)  
Sand tussock (*Poa billardierei*)

## Lomandra (*Lomandra longifolia*)



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Also consider:  
Plume rush (*Restio tetraphyllus*)

# 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*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)



C.Lewis

Very distinctive deciduous fern with a short, woody trunk to 150 centimetres high covered in persistent stalk bases. Fronds are large, with tough and leathery, yellow-green leaves, and it spreads by wind-blown spores. Tolerates moderate shade and frost, and wet, poor, acidic soils, and crowds out native species particularly in wetland areas.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## *Blechnum gibbum* 'Silver lady'



Northland Regional Council



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

## King fern (*Ptsana salicina*)



Northland Regional Council



Also consider:  
*Todea barbara*

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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*)

## Aspidestra (*Aspidestra elatior*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:  
*Cordyline rubra*  
*Curculigo capitulata*

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Watsonia (*Watsonia meriana* var. *bulbillifera*)



C. Lewis

Clump-forming, perennial plant that grows up to 2 metres tall. Tough, gladioli-like leaves are green in summer. They grow up to 60 centimetres long from the base of the plant. Brick red or salmon-pink flowers are curved and trumpet-shaped, on long stems. Plants grow from a swollen, underground corm, and often from bulbils on the stems, which help it spread. Crowds out native species.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Kakaha (*Astelia chathamica*)



A.J. Townsend



Also consider:  
Maori onion (*Bulbinella hookeri*)  
*Aciphylla horrida*

## Lilium Asiatic hybrids



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:  
*Hippeastrum puniceum*

# 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)

# 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...

## Akakiore (*Parsonsia heterophylla*)



J. Smith-Dodsworth



Also consider:  
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)  
Kohia (*Passiflora tetandra*)

## Purple coral pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*)



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Also consider:  
Chilean bellflower (*Lapageria rosea*)

# 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. Spikes of sweetly scented white flowers. Smothers or replaces native plants in natural areas.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:  
White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)

## Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



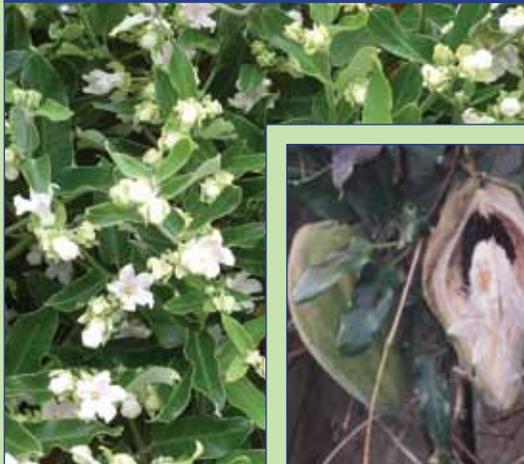
www.cfpphoto.com

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...

## Puawananga (*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*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Asparagus group (*Asparagus species*)



*Asparagus asparagoides*



*Asparagus setaceus*



*Asparagus aethiopicus*



*Asparagus scandens*

C.Lewis (all)

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.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Pohuehue

(*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



## 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 rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)



J.Taylor, DOC



Also consider:  
Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)  
Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)

## Banksia rose (*Rosa banksia* 'Luteum')



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:  
Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## 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

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:  
Carmine rata (*Metrosideros carminea*)  
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)

## Chilean bellflower (*Lapageria rosea*)



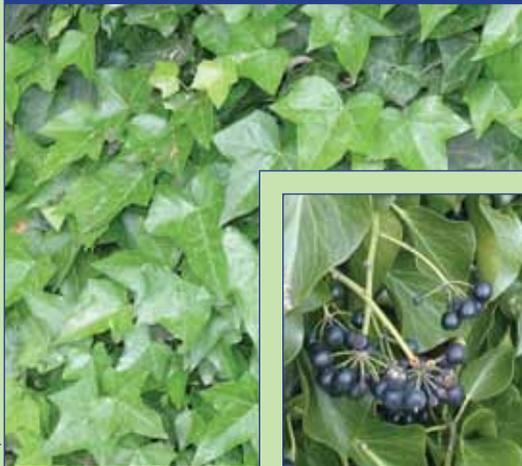
www.cifgphoto.com

Also consider:  
Purple coral pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*)

# 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...

## Rata

(*Metrosideros fulgens*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:  
Puawananga (*Clematis paniculata*)  
Pohuehue (*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*)



www.cfpphoto.com

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 (*Parsonia heterophylla*)  
Kohia (*Passiflora tetrandra*)

## Star jasmine

(*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Kennedia (*Kennedia rubicunda*)



Large vigorous vine. Oval leaves in groups of three, with brown hair on lower surface. Dull dark red, pea-like flowers are followed by pea-like pods. It reproduces by seeds and cuttings.

Department of Conservation

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Rata

(*Metrosideros fulgens*)



Department of Conservation



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

## Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:  
Chilean bellflower (*Lapageria rosea*)  
Snail vine (*Phaseolus caracalla*)

# 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...

## Kohia

(*Passiflora tetrandra*)



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

## Star jasmine

(*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Rosa banksia* 'Luteum'

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Cat's claw creeper (*Macfadyena unguis-cati*)



Vigorous climber with tiny branched, claw-like tendrils that cling tightly to whatever they are climbing on. Large yellow trumpet flowers are followed by long, bean-like seed pods. Smothers native plants in natural areas.

C.Lewis

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## White rata (*Metrosideros perforata*)



J. Taylor, DOC



Also consider:  
Leafless clematis (*Clematis afoliata*)  
Three King's vine (*Tecomanthe speciosa*)

## *Genista* 'Yellow Imp'



J. Liddle

Also consider:  
Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Banana passionfruit & blue passionflower



*Passiflora caerulea*



*Passiflora tarminiana*

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*)



www.cjphoto.com



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

### Chilean bellflower

(*Lapageria rosea*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Clematis montana* cultivars

# 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...

## Pohuehue

(*Muehlenbeckia complexa*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:

Carmines rata (*Metrosideros carminea*)

Horokaka (*Disphyma australe*)

## Purple coral pea

(*Hardenbergia violacea*)



www.cfpphoto.com

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...

## Kowhai

(*Sophora microphylla*)



A.J.Townsend



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

## Lemon bottlebrush

(*Callistemon paludosus*)



www.cjphoto.com

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

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Monkey apple (*Acmena 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*)  
Kaikomako (*Pennantia corymbosa*)

## Sweet michelia (*Michelia doltsopa*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Photinia x fraseri* 'Red Robin'  
*Camellia sasanqua*

Shrubs, trees  
and palms

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# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## 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. Shade-tolerant when young, and invades native forest. Seeds are spread by birds. Establishes as mature trees in native forests, replacing the native nikau and outcompeting native understorey plants. As a seedling hard to tell apart from nikau.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Nikau

*(Rhopalostylis sapida)*



www.cdgphoto.com



Also consider:

Puka (*Mertya sinclairii*)

Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)

## Queen palm

*(Syagrus romanzoffiana)*



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:

Jelly palm (*Butia capitata*)

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Coastal banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*)

Department of Conservation



Large shrub or small tree to about 10 metres tall with narrow, oval leaves that are deep, glossy green above and white underneath, and have sharply serrated edges. Spikes of small flowers form cylindrical pale-green or greenish yellow 'brushes' which develop into cones containing winged seeds that are spread by wind. Tolerates salty, coastal conditions and forms stands that crowd out native species.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Rewarewa (*Knightia excelsa*)



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Also consider:  
Coastal maire (*Nestegis apetala*)

## Feijoa (*Feijoa sellowiana*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
Old man banksia (*Banksia serrata*)  
*Grevillea* species

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Buddleia (*Buddleia davidii*)



C. Lewis

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

*Buddleia madagascariensis*, with narrower leaves and orange flowers, is also weedy.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Titirangi (*Hebe speciosa*)



A.J. Townsend



Also consider:  
*Corokia buddleioides*  
Kakabeak (*Clianthus puniceus*)

## Silk tassel bush (*Garrya elliptica*)



www.cjphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Luculia (Luculia gratissima)*  
Beauty bush (*Calliandra portoricensis*)

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Callistemon (*Callistemon rigidus*)



A.J. Townsend

Shrub to 2 metres tall with a spreading habit. Leaves, green to grey-green, narrow, up to 11 centimetres long, stiff and leathery. Inflorescence, a hairy, deep crimson 'bottle brush' with stamens up to 3 centimetres long. Tolerant of drought and salt and invades coastal shrubland and dunes. Wind dispersed seed.

The non-weedy *Callistemon citrinus* is very similar but has leaves that smell of citrus when crushed.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Manuka

(*Leptospermum scoparium*)



A.J. Townsend



Also consider:

Towai (*Weinmannia silvicola*)

Toru (*Toronia toru*)

## Grevillea

(*Grevillea* 'Robin Hood')



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Also consider:

Bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*)

Teloepa (*Teloepa speciosa*)

Shrubs, trees  
and palms

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# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Cestrum (Cestrum species)



C. Lewis

Shrubs or small trees to 4 metres 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.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Kakabeak (*Clianthus puniceus*)



N. Douglas



Also consider:  
Kotukutuku (*Fuchsia excorticata*)  
Hangehange (*Geniostoma ligustrifolium*)

## Correa pulchella 'Salmon Pink'



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Also consider:  
Gardenia (*Gardenia jasminoides*)  
Fuchsia hybrids (not *F. magellanica*)

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)



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.

C.Howell, DOC

# 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*

# 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:

Karamu (*Coprosma robusta*)

Coastal mahoe (*Melicytus novae-zelandiae*)

## Photinia

(*Photinia x fraseri* 'Red Robin')



C.Lewis

Also consider:

Crepe myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*)

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)



C. Lewis

Erect, perennial shrub up to 4 metres tall. Has a stout taproot, green, switch-like stems that are ridged and angled, and few narrow leaves. Bright yellow flowers are followed by seed pods which ripen to black and explode, releasing seeds. Invades grasslands and shrublands, and open places including dunes, cliffs, and riverbeds. Tolerant to drought and frost, and will grow in semi-shade.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Kowhai (*Sophora microphylla*)



A.J. Townsend



Also consider:  
Koromiko (*Hebe stricta*)  
Makaka (*Carmichaelia australis*)

## Genista 'Yellow Imp'



J. Little

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

# 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...

## Tarata / Lemonwood (*Pittosporum eugenioides*)



K. Broome



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

## Silk tassel bush (*Garrya elliptica*)



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

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Spanish heath (*Erica lusitanica*)



C. Lewis

This woody shrub grows to 2 metres tall and has small, dense, needle-like leaves on woody stems. It produces masses of small, white, bell-shaped flowers and the profusion of small seeds are spread by wind.

Spanish heath thrives in poor or acidic soils and forms dense stands outcompeting other species.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Epacris (*Epacris pauciflora*)



A.J. Townshend



Also consider:  
*Hebe diosmifolia*  
*Gaultheria crassa*

## *Erica* × *darleyensis* 'Jack H. Brummage'



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:  
China flower (*Adenandra uniflora*)  
Lily of the valley shrub (*Pieris japonica*)

# 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

55

Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Coral tree (*Erythrina x sykesii*)



C. Lewis

Deciduous tree up to 18 metres high with stout, sharp prickles on trunks and branches. Leaves have three kite-shaped leaflets up to 20 centimetres long. Scarlet-orange flowers form large clusters at branch tips. Cuttings and dropped branches take root easily. In some Northland areas it is a major problem in wetlands where dense thickets form, crowding out other species.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*)



S. Fimmel



Also consider:  
Karaka (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*)  
Kakabeak (*Clianthus puniceus*)

## Ilawarra flame tree (*Brachychiton acerifolius*)



S. Brill

Also consider:  
Honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)  
Queensland warratah (*Alloxylon flammeum*)

# 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 mapou (*Myrsine australis*)  
Ramarama (*Lophomyrtus bullata*)

### Camellia sasanqua 'yuletide'



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

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Hakea species



Protea-like Australian shrubs with woody, 'beaked' capsules containing wind-spread winged seeds. All are fire-tolerant and form extensive thickets in forests, out-competing native species.

L to R: C.Lewis, C. Lewis, A-J.Townsend

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Mingimingi (*Leptocophylla juniperina*)



W. Bennett

## Grevillea (*Grevillea* 'Robin Hood')



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Also consider:  
*Protea* species



Also consider:  
Manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*)  
Mingimingi (*Leucopogon fasciculatus*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Queensland poplar (*Homalanthus populifolius*)



C.Lewis

Shrub or small tree to 5 metres tall with smooth heart-shaped leaves that turn red during colder months, and thin spikes of plants that develop into round green fruit with 'antennae' coming out the top. Tolerates shade and out competes native species, forming a sub-canopy in bush areas. Spread by birds and by branches taking root where they touch the ground.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Puka (*Meryta sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:  
Horopito (*Pseudowintera colorata*)  
Tawapou (*Pouteria costata*)

## Fairy bamboo (*Nandina domestica*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:  
*Lophomyrtus x raphii*

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Tutsan (*Hypericum androsaemum*)



C. Lewis

This hardy shrub has yellow flowers followed by red berries that ripen to black. The leaves may turn red and fall in the autumn. Tutsan can withstand a range of conditions, including shade.

Tutsan grows quickly and the seeds are widely spread by birds. It crowds out species that are lower growing.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Shrub daisy (*Brachyglottis greyi*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:  
Kumerahou (*Pomaderris kumerahou*)  
Native hibiscus (*Hibiscus richardsonii*)

## Orange blossom (*Choisya ternata*)



J.Liddle

Also consider:  
*Cistus* 'Yellow Fever'  
*Cytisus battandieri*

Shrubs, trees  
and palms

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# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Shrub balsam (*Impatiens sodenii*)



C.Lewis

Perennial shrub growing to about 2 metres tall with green semi-succulent stem and shiny, dark green leaves arranged in bunches. Pink flowers are followed by fruit which dry out, explode and disperse seeds. Stems also take root where they touch the ground. Forms dense thickets and is moderately shade tolerant. Crowds out native species.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Hebe

(*Hebe diosmifolia*)



S.Frimmel



Also consider:

Koromiko (*Hebe macrocarpa*, *H.perbella*, *H.stricta*)

Titirangi (*Hebe speciosa*)

## Heartleaf saxifrage (*Bergenia cordifolia*)



C.Lewis

Also consider:

Daphne (*Daphne odorata*)

Azalea species

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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. Drooping spikes of either male or female flowers 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*)

## Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*)



www.cjgphoto.com

Also consider:  
Queensland umbrella tree (*Schefflera actinophylla*)  
Hickory or pecan (*Carya* species)

# 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*)

## Rhododendron 'Simbu Sunset'



www.crfphoto.com

Also consider:  
Vireya rhododendrons  
Oranga azalea (*Azalea gloriosa*)  
Orange hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* 'Surfrider')

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Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# 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...

### Taurepo

(*Rhabdothamnus solandri*)



S. Frimmel



Also consider:  
Kawakawa (*Macropiper excelsum*)  
Taupata (*Coprosma repens*)

### *Correa pulchella* 'Salmon Pink'



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Fuchsia x hybrida* 'Dark Eyes'

# 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...

## Papauma (*Griselinia littoralis*)



R. Stanley, DOC



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

## Port wine magnolia (*Michelia figo*)



www.cfpphoto.com

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

65

Shrubs, trees  
and palms

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Cape honeyflower (*Melianthus major*)



C.Lewis

Shrub growing to 2 metres tall, with stout, soft-wooded, hollow stems and a suckering root system. Blue-grey leaves are made up of many toothed leaflets, and dark, strong smelling, reddish-brown flowers are followed by water and wind-spread seeds. Also grows from fragments of stems. Forms large, impenetrable clumps on dunes, stream sides and open places.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Titirangi (*Hebe speciosa*)



A.J.Townsend



Also consider:  
Weeping broom (*Carmichaelia stevensonii*)

## Californian lilac (*Ceanothus papillosus*)



www.cifphoto.com

Also consider:  
Glory bush (*Tibouchina granulosa*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Mickey Mouse plant (*Ochna serrulata*)



C. Lewis

Hardy shrub growing to 3 metres tall with a deep taproot and finely serrated leaves up to 65 millimetres long. Small, fragrant, yellow flowers are followed by round green bird-spread fruit that ripen to black and have bright red sepals. Tolerates wet soil but also withstands droughts. Prefers semi shade, growing in the forest understorey, and can form a dense undergrowth preventing regeneration of native species.

## PLANT ME INSTEAD...

### Titirangi (*Hebe speciosa*)



A.J. Townsend



Also consider:  
Bush strawberry (*Gaultheria antipoda*)  
*Corokia x virgata* 'Bronze King'

### Correa pulchella 'Salmon Pink'



www.cfpphoto.com

Also consider:  
*Camellia sasanqua* 'Yule Tide'  
Flowering quince (*Chanomeles japonica*)

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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*)



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

## Queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:  
Jelly palm (*Butia capitata*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Sweet pittosporum (*Pittosporum undulatum*)

Department of Conservation



Non-deciduous tree to 15 metres tall with undulating, dark green leaves with purple stalks. Fragrant, white flowers are grouped at the end of the stems and are followed by round orange capsules containing bird-spread seeds. Forms infestations in forest and wetlands, and in open areas.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Tarata / Lemonwood (*Pittosporum eugenioides*)



K. Broome



Also consider:  
Lacebark (*Hoheria populnea*)  
Makomako (*Aristotelia serrata*)

## Camellia sasanqua 'yuletide'



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Also consider:  
Australian frangipani (*Hymenosporum flavum*)  
Vireya rhododendrons

# 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')



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Also consider:  
Crabapple (*Malus floribunda*)

Shrubs, trees  
and palms

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# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Castor oil plant (*Ricinus communis*)



A.J. Townsend

Small, spreading, highly poisonous tree up to 4 metres tall with large reddish leaves divided into lobes. Flowers are clustered in heads and develop into soft spiny capsules containing rectangular seeds. Grows well in open areas.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Parataniwha (*Elatostema rugosum*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:  
Rangiora (*Brachyglottis repanda*)

## Lorapetalum chinense 'Burgundy'



J. Liddle

Also consider:  
Persian shield plant (*Strobilanthes dyerianus*)  
Purple passionflower (*Gynura sarmentosa*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEE



## Velvet groundsel (*Senecio petasitis*)



C. Lewis

Erect, soft perennial shrub growing to 2 metres tall with large velvety leaves and clusters of yellow, daisy-like flowers followed by fluffy wind-spread seeds. Invades natural areas, forming dense cover that shades out and suppresses native plants.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Rangiora (*Brachyglottis repanda*)



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Also consider:  
Marlborough rock daisy (*Pachystegia insignis*)  
Korokio (*Corokia x virgata* 'Cheesmanii')

## Genista 'Yellow Imp'



J. Liddle

Also consider:  
Yellow crazy daisy (*Argyranthemum frutescens*)

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...

## Puka (*Meryta sinclairii*)



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



## Fan palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*)



Department of Conservation

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.

# PLANT ME INSTEAD...

## Nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*)



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Also consider:  
Wheki ponga (*Dicksonia fibrosa*)  
Cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*)

## Jelly palm (*Butia capitata*)



Northland Regional Council

Also consider:  
Queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*)

# GARDEN ESCAPEES



## Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)



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.

C. Lewis



## 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.

NIWA



## 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

# GARDEN ESCAPEES



## 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 that grow on margins of water bodies and can invade flood-prone pasture.

C. Lewis



## 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



## Monkey musk (*Mimulus guttatus*)



Monkey musk is an erect perennial bog herb growing to 60 centimetres. It has thick, stiff, occasionally branched stems with toothed, oval leaves to 12 centimetres long. Yellow flowers are produced in autumn with red spots on the bearded lower lip. This sometimes aquatic plant has the potential to choke channels and stop drainage and can be found with herbage floating in small bodies of water.

Plant Protection Society

# 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.**



## Kangaroo acacia (*Acacia paradoxa*)

A.J. Townsend



Shrub or small tree to 3 metres high with alternate, sparsely hairy stiff 'leaves' (actually flattened leaf stems) and nasty thin stiff spines at the base. Flowers borne July to October are small golden and spherical, and seedpods are hairy.



## Barlettina (*Bartlettina sordida*)

C. Lewis



Ever-green Bartlettina grows to 2 metres high with young stems and leaves covered in dense reddish-purple hairs. Large, broad, oval leaves are dark green with reddish veins above and often purple below. Bunches of fragrant, fluffy, pink or purple-red flowers are produced in summer on the ends of branchlets. These are followed by small, cylindrical, dry, dark brown fruit.

# GARDEN ESCAPEES - watch for these!



## Climbing spindleberry (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

C. Lewis



Deciduous, perennial vine with variable leaves that turn bright orange-yellow in autumn. Clusters of small greenish-yellow flowers are followed by yellow capsules that split to reveal a bright red, bird-spread berry. Aggressive invader that strangles or smothers native species in forest margins and natural areas.



## Old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*)

C. Lewis



Perennial, woody, deciduous climber with five leaflets (compared to the native clematis which has three leaflets). Small white flowers from December to March are followed by silky balls of seed. Serious threat to native bush, overtopping it and forming a thick blanket that kills native plants and trees.



## Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*)

C. Lewis



Densely-branched, upright, woody shrub growing to 6 metres, sometimes used for hedges and shelter. Tough spines are found at the tips of branches, leaves are narrow and oblong, and flowers white or pale mauve. The bird spread orange-red berries can be poisonous.

# GARDEN ESCAPEES - watch for these!



## Batwing passiflora (*Passiflora apetala*)

Northland Regional Council



Climbing plant with a two lobed leaf, lighter green on the underside, with sometimes a yellow midrib in younger leaves. Small insignificant flowers produce copious quantities of inedible black berries the size of grapes that are attractive to birds. Tolerates shade and invasive in native bush



## Italian 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.



## Turkey berry (*Solanum torvum*)

Forest and Kim Starr



Evergreen, branched shrub growing to 3 metres. Foliage is confined to the growing twigs which also have short, slightly curved spines. Leaves are oval, sometimes lobed, up to 23 centimetres long, and hairy. Tubular white flowers are produced in clusters but shed soon after opening. The fruit looks like a cluster of green peas that become yellow when ripe and contain numerous brown seeds.

## Ground covers and fillers

Bear's breeches	<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	1
Century plant	<i>Agave americana</i>	2
Mistflower & Mexican devil	<i>Ageratina</i> species	3
Elephant's ear	<i>Alocasia brisbanensis</i>	4
Greater bindweed	<i>Calystegia sylvatica</i>	5
Ice plant	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	6
Mexican daisy	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	7
Chilean rhubarb	<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>	8
Yellow & kahili ginger	<i>Hedychium</i> species	9
Artillery plant	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	10
Bamboo	<i>Phyllostachys aureus</i>	11
Blue spur flower	<i>Plectranthus ciliatus</i>	12
African clubmoss	<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	13
Tradescantia	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	14
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Mexican needle grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	23
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Royal fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	25
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Common ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	35
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Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster</i> species	51
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## Weed watch!

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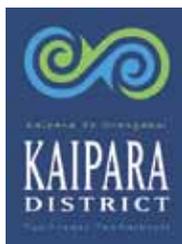
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