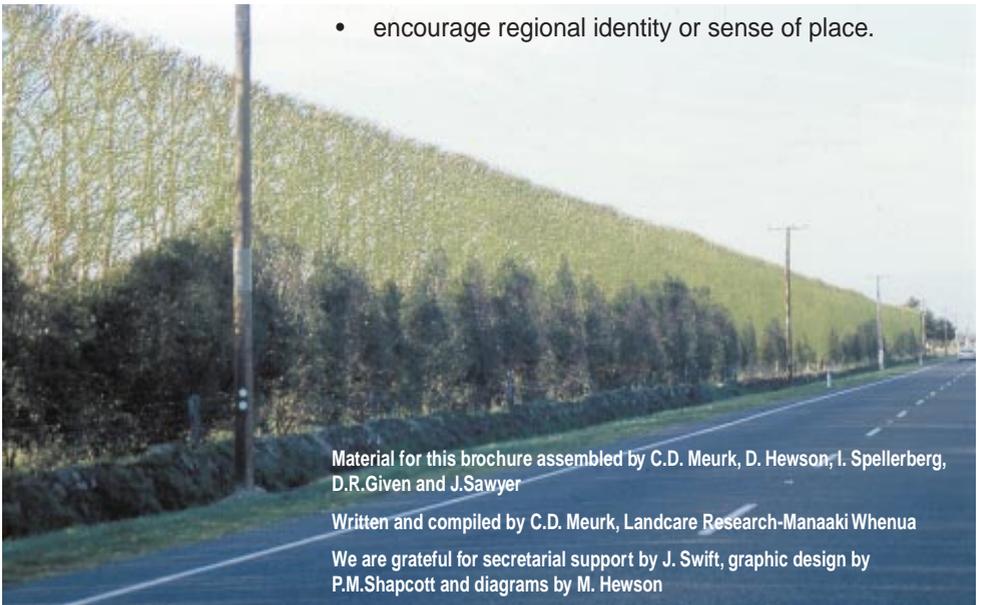


# Establishing shelter in Canterbury with Nature Conservation in mind

A practical guide – for the true Cantabrian!

Hedgerows and shelterbelts are **living windbreaks** that can protect and preserve the environment and our cultural history. They actively:

- shelter livestock and crops
- contribute to biodiversity goals (natural variety of plants, animals and habitats)
- create sanctuaries for bio-control agents
- reduce erosion
- form habitats and corridors for wildlife
- support rare plants and our natural treasures or taonga
- create mature, interesting and diverse landscapes
- enhance our 'clean green' image
- provide attractive visual screening
- encourage regional identity or sense of place.



Material for this brochure assembled by C.D. Meurk, D. Hewson, I. Spellerberg, D.R. Given and J. Sawyer

Written and compiled by C.D. Meurk, Landcare Research-Manaaki Whenua

We are grateful for secretarial support by J. Swift, graphic design by P.M. Shapcott and diagrams by M. Hewson

*Black matipo and willow shelterbelt on heavy soil*

## How Shelter brings Biodiversity into your Landscape

Techniques for establishing rapid and efficient shelter across the windswept Canterbury Plains are well researched and practised (see references). Exotic pines, macrocarpa, poplars, willows, gums, hawthorn, gorse and pampas grass undoubtedly grow fast, but may become weeds – and mostly offer limited value to native wildlife. There is a great

opportunity to foster the wider community interest in diversity within the **300 000 km of utilitarian shelter** that criss-crosses the plains.

Mixtures of both native and exotic species may give optimal benefits of shelter, permeability, low maintenance, biodiversity and resistance to drought, frost and snow break.



*Together the natural pohuehue hedge (Muehlenbeckia) and cabbage tree standard provide fruit and foliage for native birds, lizards and butterflies*

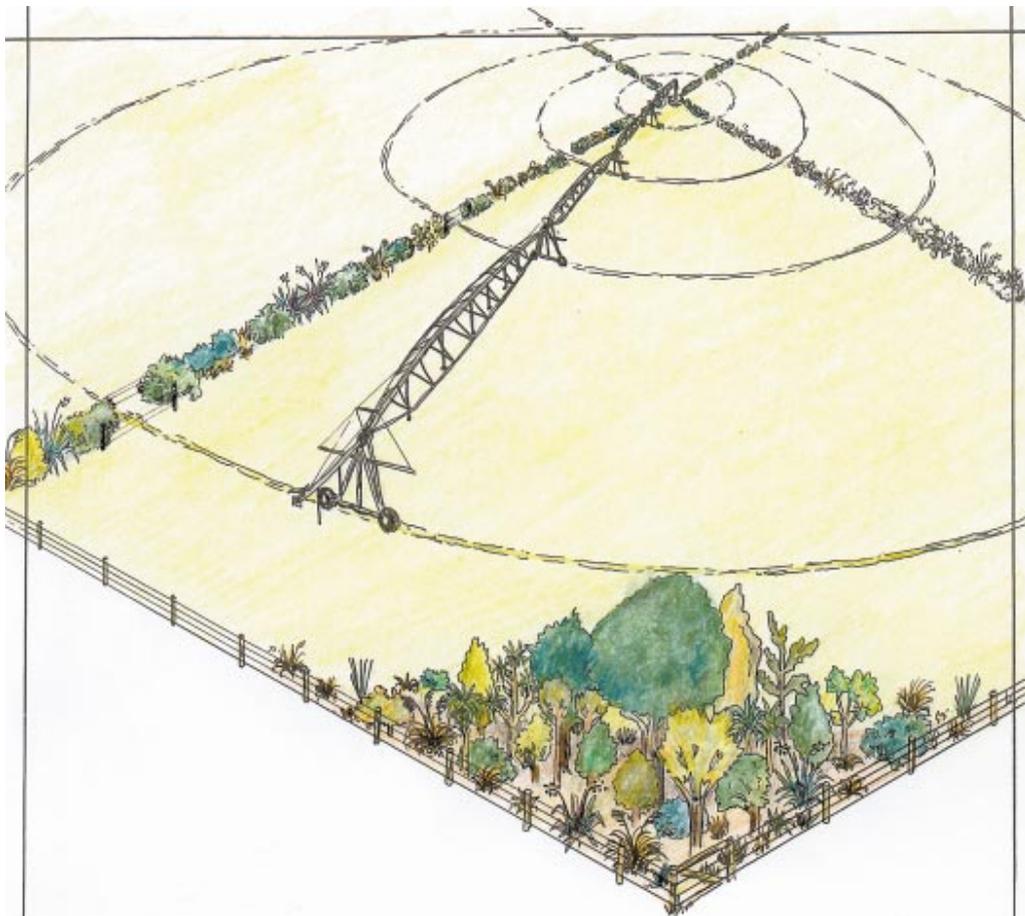
Integrating nature and production is a means of fulfilling Regional Policies (Environment Canterbury-CRC 1998) and 'Biowhat?' goals.

The indigenous plants and wildlife that once characterised lowland Canterbury are mostly gone. But tiny fragments of natural habitat do survive on the plains - cabbage trees, NZ flax/harakeke, kowhai, pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia*), bracken, sedges and rushes - in hedges and paddocks or along streams and ditches. These provide glimpses of past history and are important food sources for native birds, lizards and insects. The hedges and shelterbelts that bound our farmlands thus lend themselves to restoration of habitat, biodiversity and linkages whilst providing for other farming needs. They can be similar to the traditional hedgerows of England - bastions of biodiversity that have enriched rural lands for centuries. Following this example provides a simple and practical approach to **integrating biodiversity and production**.



*Lemonwood is an increasingly popular shelter species on medium land with moderate frost risk*

**Centre-pivot irrigation** is the new technology of the plains with new possibilities for incorporating low, radial hedging - with gaps for wheel tracks - and bush patches in field corners. Suitable species are identified in the Appendix.



**Centre pivot irrigation with radial pattern of hedging and bushy field corners**

## How to Create Biodiverse Shelter

### 1. Protecting remnant plants and habitats

The cheapest and most effective form of nature conservation is to **protect existing primary habitats** by fencing and managing them (Davis & Meurk 2001). Remnant trees and shrubs may be centuries old and, with all their dependent microbes, insects, reptiles and birds, are irreplaceable in your lifetime. Yet we are still destroying what little is left! Stream remnants and swamp plants in drains or wetland areas are good places to start protection; shrubby road verges are already fenced; some remnant kanuka still forms natural shelter in the Eyrewell and Maronan districts preserving a distinctive historical landscape (see back page).

### 2. Enriching and enhancing existing plantings

Gorse hedges often have tangles of pohuehue (*Muehlenbeckia complexa*) which provide food for butterflies and birds. Such 'starters' can be further **enhanced by enrichment planting** of a greater range of fruit- and nectar-

providing species. They then also become an active and self-reinforcing part of the landscape. By being dispersed and regenerating naturally in suitable locations, they in turn provide more food for wildlife, and so on. As well as providing shelter and berries or nectar, planting of totara, matai, beech and kanuka may in the future be sustainably harvested for various uses.



*An alder shelter belt with an understory of young native trees. Note: alder may seed into wetlands and along streams*

To interplant or underplant an existing hedge or shelterbelt you will need to thin or find gaps among the trees or shrubs. You will ideally dig out competing roots for at least a 50 cm diameter before planting. It will be very tough around very old trees so plant as far away from trunks as possible. Seedlings will eventually fill in the gaps.

### 3. Starting from scratch

We are usually in the position of starting from scratch - often an uphill battle - or buffering around remnant vegetation. However, when starting from bare land you can prepare the ground better (see the calendar and references for details). Initially, mixtures of indigenous and exotic species may provide the right combination of amenity, resilience and mutual, nursery-like protection.

***Always establish the hardiest species first:***

- those that need full sunlight (O in appendix), or are species tolerant of coastal exposure (C),

***Delay establishment of sensitive species:***

- species needing initial shelter (S) or drought or frost tender (DT, FT) plants can be inter- or underplanted in later years. Some farmers have used temporary shade-cloth in very exposed places to provide plants with a good start.

The **essential steps** for any large scale planting are planning, design, selection and ordering of plants, preparing the site in time, excluding stock, having an effective weed and pest control programme, planting correctly, mulching

and managing through to self maintenance.

See the following **Task Calendar**, the **Essential Tips**, **Design Ideas** and **References** for further details. The listed **species** (see Appendix) are suitable for hedgerow and shelterbelt planting in Canterbury.



*Mixed shelterbelt of black matipo, lemonwood, ribbonwood, narrow-leaved lacebark and eucalyptus*

## A Calendar for creating biodiverse shelter

Months	Year 1												Year 2												Year 3											
	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A								
Planning & Design																																				
Species Selection																																				
Pre-ordering																																				
Site preparation																																				
Fence for stock																																				
Weed control - especially twitch																																				
Pest control																																				
<b>Planting Hills</b>																																				
<b>Planting Plains</b>																																				
Mulching																																				
Ongoing Weed & Pest Control																																				
Watering																																				
Replace Dead Plants																																				

**Note**, the optimal **planting time** for inland Canterbury is September – past the main danger period for frost and before the summer drought. Herbicide is ineffective or slow to act in the winter months so pre-planting weed control must take this into account. For pest control use tree protectors, old tyres or other guards, repellents, or kill with poisons, traps or shooting. If watering is needed to save plants during a first season drought, irrigate generously but infrequently.

## Read these Lips for ESSENTIAL Tips!

### Preparation

- **Don't bite off more than you can chew** – or you will get indigestion from trying to chew too many weeds and pests! Experiment on a small scale first, to see what works before committing and risking major resources.
- Get the **right plants for the right place, and use good quality stock** – know your climate, soils and optimal planting times! Native plants often get a bad reputation because they are put in the worst (ecologically inappropriate) places and – surprise surprise – they don't grow!

### Planting

- Soak plant roots **before planting**.
- **Dig a hole bigger and deeper** than the root ball.
- **Cut** off tangled and matted roots.
- Set the plant into worked soil at the bottom of the hole; **pack crumbled soil** around roots; **avoid air pockets**.
- cover exposed potting mix with soil.
- Plant **deeper in dry** environments (with the collar below natural soil surface) and **shallower in permanently moist** sites (collar at soil surface).

### Maintenance

- **Don't use weed eaters around young plants** without hand-clearing the grass first! Ring-barking is one of the most common causes of plant mortality – and contractors **DO** need to be told!

- **Don't spray grass around native plants UNLESS** you really know what you're doing – the most valuable plants are extremely sensitive and the merest whiff of drift may be enough to send your carefully nurtured kanuka, kowhai, or totara to an early grave.
- **Don't let dense grass grow around young plants** – keep them weeded or apply mulch or weed mats. Let



*Mulch and protection on light land with rabbit/hare risk*

only experienced operators release spray – with a spray guard or a grass specific herbicide.

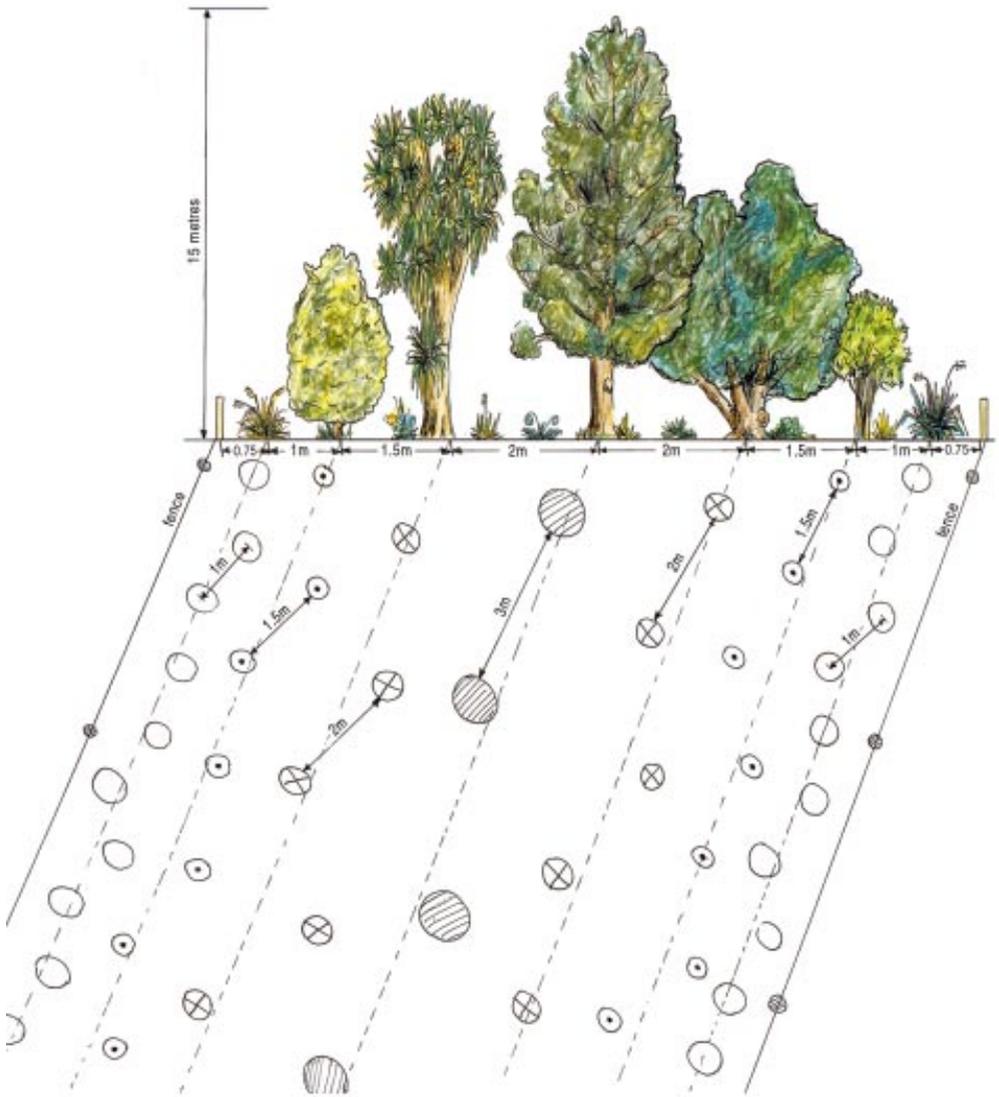
- If there is any doubt about ability to maintain continual weed control, **stake all small plants** so they can be found in the long grass – and not by the whoops method!

- **Control pests** – absolutely! Many

native plants are icecream to voracious pests!

Be assured, if you don't take heed of this advice it will end up costing you big time - in dollars, disappointment and frustration!





### A design for a wide, biodiverse shelterbelt in good growing conditions

Once canopy is partially established, shade-tolerant tussocks, ferns, lilies, and frost-tender trees can be introduced. Avoid planting in dead straight lines. The same sequence can be used on a narrow (one sided) shelter belt or hedge, in a field corner, or as a buffer for remnant bush.

Note: assumes electric outrigger to stop stock reaching through.

## Other Information Sources

Christchurch City Council 2000. *Christchurch Naturally – discovering the City's wild side.*

Davis, M, Meurk, C. 2001. *Protecting and restoring our natural heritage – a practical guide.* Dept of Conservation, Christchurch. Available also on the web: [www.doc.govt.nz/regional-info/Canterbury/Publications/Protecting and Restoring our Natural Heritage....](http://www.doc.govt.nz/regional-info/Canterbury/Publications/Protecting%20and%20Restoring%20our%20Natural%20Heritage...)

Environment Canterbury brochures and booklets: Nigel Buttery on 'wide shelter for native plants'.

Environment Canterbury – Canterbury Regional Council 1998. *Regional Policy.*

*The Quick Find Guide to Growing Native Plants.* A Viking book, 1997, by Andrew Crowe. ISBN 067087642 9

Gabites, I, Lucas, R. 1998. *The Native Garden – design themes from wild New Zealand.* Godwit, Auckland.

Meurk, C.D, Swaffield, S.R. 2000. A landscape ecological framework for indigenous regeneration in rural New Zealand-Aotearoa. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 50: 129-144.

Ministry for the Environment 2000. *Biowhat?*

Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment 2002. *Weaving resilience into our working lands – future roles for native plants on private land.*

Porteous, T. 1993. *Native forest restoration – a practical guide for landowners.* QEII Trust & Monsanto.

*Planterguide* in [www.bush.org.nz](http://www.bush.org.nz) allows native species selection for any part of lowland New Zealand.

Price, L.W. 1993. Hedges and shelterbelts on the Canterbury Plains, New Zealand: transformation of an Antipodean landscape. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 83: 119-140.

Spellerberg, I. 2001. Wildlife corridors: fact or fiction? *Planning Quarterly*, June: 26-27.

## **Nurseries that Specialise in Native Plants** (listed from North to South)

**We recommend use of local Canterbury species and seed sources; always seek certification.**

Kaikoura Nurseries Ltd - Main North Rd; Ph 03 319 5851

Broadleaf Nursery - 308 Rangiora-Woodend Rd;  
Ph 03-313 5315.

Wai-Ora Forest Landscapes Ltd - 48 Watsons Rd,  
Harewood; Ph 03-359 2458.

Trees for Canterbury - 261 Opawa Rd, Christchurch;  
Ph 03-332 8586.

Letzgo Native Nurseries - Governors Bay; Ph 03-329 9833.

Motukarara Nursery (DOC); Ph 03-329 7846.

Lothlorien Nursery - Whitecliffs Rd, Coalgate;  
Ph 03-318 2911.

Lakeways Nursery - Grahams Rd, Tinwald; Ph 03 308 9950

Wilson's Garden Makers - Robinson St, Ashburton;  
Ph 03 308 4630

Opuha Nurseries - Geraldine; Ph 03-693 9283.

Matai Nurseries - McNamara Rd, Waimate;  
Ph 0800 262 8240, 03 689 8928



*Small-leaved coprosmas, myrtle, NZ jasmine and clematis can be clipped into a tidy hedge*

## Appendix

### Indigenous Species for Hedgerows and Shelterbelts in Canterbury

The **bolded species are the hardiest and most vigorous for immediate results**, but others may be gradually introduced once some shelter and structure has been established - to increase diversity, versatility and interest. Many other species may be grown if you have very good growing conditions – adequate moisture, fertility and established shelter. In general we recommend the use of local species and provenances. Make sure you specify these from the nursery; it is not unknown for some

Formal plant name	common name	suitable zone	frost tender
<b>Trees, shrubs &amp; vines</b>			
<b><i>Aristotelia fruticosa</i></b>	<b>mountain wineberry</b>	3,4 ☞☐†	
<b><i>Aristotelia serrata</i></b>	<b>wineberry, makomako</b>	1,2	FT
<i>Carmichaelia australis/petriei</i>	NZ broom	3,4	
<i>Carmichaelia torulosa</i>	Canterbury broom	2,3☐†	
<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>	marbleleaf, putaputaweta	1,2☞†	FT
<i>Clematis foetida</i>	clematis	1,2,3☞☐†	FT
<i>Clematis forsteri</i>	clematis (& c.marata type)	1,2,4☞☐†	
<b><i>Coprosma acerosa</i></b>	<b>sand coprosma</b>	1,3☞†	
<b><i>Coprosma crassifolia</i></b>	<b>mikimiki</b>	1,3☞☐†	
<b><i>Coprosma intertexta</i></b>	<b>mikimiki</b>	3,4	
<i>Coprosma linariifolia</i>	yellow wood	1,2,3☐	FT

#### Key:

##### Zones:

These are the regions where the species are most likely to prosper, not the only places they will grow -

- 1 Banks Peninsula & coastal hills
- 2 inland foothills
- 3 Plains
- 4 High country

☞ Able to be trimmed or hedged.

☐ Suitable for low hedges in centre-pivot irrigation (CPI) systems.

† Tolerant of some browsing pressure *once established*.

**Bold names** are robust & vigorous spp in Canterbury in the context of their stated preferences

non-specialist nurseries to supply South American pampas grass, Australian Ngaio and North Island lacebarks in place of toetoe and South Island or NZ provenances. We have nevertheless included a few non-local indigenous plants because their use is so

widespread and successful, and they have shown limited capacity to spread or infiltrate local gene pools.

drought tender	needs full sun	coastal tolerance	needs initial shelter	growth form	wildlife value
	O			dense shrub	berries
DT			S	small deciduous tree	berries
	O	C		open shrub	nectar
	O			open shrub	nectar
DT			S	medium tree	nectar/berries
DT			S	vine	nectar
DT			S	vine	nectar
	O	C		dense shrub	blue berries
	O	C		dense shrub	berries
	O			open shrub	blue berries
DT			S	open shrub	berries

to P16 

FT The most frost tender spp in Canterbury context (usually absent from zones 3 & 4 unless there is full overhead shelter).

DT The most drought tender spp in Canterbury context; needing moist soils.

O Needs full sun or at most only partial shade.

C Tolerant of salt spray and coastal exposure.

S Needs some shelter from strong drying wind and frost; interplant for diversity and wildlife.

**Wildlife value** is the main value of fruits or flowers for birds & lizards. "Berries" is a general term for fleshy fruits eaten by birds and lizards - especially blue fruits in latter case. Most dry fruits are nevertheless associated with flowers that are visited by insects for pollen or nectar.

Formal plant name	common name	suitable zone	frost tender
<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	shining karamu	1,2,3 ☞ □	FT
<i>Coprosma "parviflora"</i>	mikimiki	1,2,3,4 ☞ □ †	
<i>Coprosma pedicellata</i>	mikimiki	1,2,3 ☞ □ †	
<b><i>Coprosma propinqua</i></b>	<b>mikimiki</b>	1,2,3,4 ☞ □ †	
<b><i>Coprosma repens</i></b>	<b>taupata (not local)</b>	1,3 ☞	FT
<b><i>Coprosma rigida</i></b>	<b>mikimiki</b>	1,2,3 ☞ □ †	
<b><i>Coprosma robusta</i></b>	<b>karamu</b>	1,2,3 ☞ □	
<i>Coprosma rubra</i>	mikimiki	1,2,3 ☞ □	
<b><i>Coprosma virescens</i></b>	<b>green mikimiki</b>	1,2,3,4 ☞ □ †	
<i>Coprosma wallii</i>	mikimiki	1,2,3 ☞ □ †	
<b><i>Cordyline australis</i></b>	<b>cabbage tree, ti kouka</b>	1,2,3,4 †	
<b><i>Corokia cotoneaster</i></b>	<b>korokio</b>	1,2,3,4 ☞ □ †	
<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	kahikatea	1,2,3 †	
<i>Discaria toumatou</i>	matagouri	1,3,4 ☞ †	
<b><i>Dodonaea viscosa</i></b>	<b>akeake (green form)</b>	1,3 ☞ †	FT
<i>Elaeocarpus hookerianus</i>	pokaka	1,2,3 †	
<i>Fuchsia xcolensoi</i>	bush fuchsia	1,2 □	FT
<b><i>Griselinia littoralis</i></b>	<b>broadleaf, papaumu</b>	1,2,3,4 ☞	
<b><i>Hebe salicifolia</i></b>	<b>koromiko</b>	1,2,3,4 ☞ □	
<i>Helichrysum lanceolatum</i>	niniao	3,4 ☞ †	
<b><i>Hoheria angustifolia</i></b>	<b>narrow-leaved lacebark</b>	1,2,3 ☞ †	
<b><i>Hoheria populnea</i></b>	<b>lacebark, houhere (Sth Island form)</b>	1,2,3 ☞ †	
<b><i>Kunzea ericoides</i></b>	<b>kanuka</b>	1,2,3,4 †	
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	manuka (subject to blight)	3,4 †	

## Key:

### Zones:

These are the regions where the species are most likely to prosper, not the only places they will grow -

- 1 Banks Peninsula & coastal hills
- 2 inland foothills
- 3 Plains
- 4 High country

☞ Able to be trimmed or hedged.

□ Suitable for low hedges in centre-pivot irrigation (CPI) systems.

† Tolerant of some browsing pressure *once established*.

**Bold names** are robust & vigorous spp in Canterbury in the context of their stated preferences

drought tender	needs full sun	coastal tolerant	needs shelter	growth form	wildlife value
DT			S	small tree	berries
	O			dense shrub	berries
DT	O			dense shrub	berries
	O	C		dense shrub	blue berries
	O	C		small tree	berries
	O			dense shrub	berries
		C		small tree	berries
DT	O			open shrub	berries
	O			dense shrub	berries
DT	O			dense shrub	berries
	O	C		medium tree	white berries
	O			dense shrub	berries
DT			S	tall tree	berries
	O	C		open shrub	nectar/pollen
	O	C		medium tree	dry
DT			S	tall tree	berries
DT	O		S	dense deciduous shrub	berries/nectar
		C		medium tree	berries
DT	O			dense shrub	nectar
	O	C		dense shrub	nectar
	O			medium tree	nectar
	O			medium tree	nectar
	O			medium tree	nectar
	O	C		small tree	nectar

to P18 

FT The most frost tender spp in Canterbury context (usually absent from zones 3 & 4 unless there is full overhead shelter).

DT The most drought tender spp in Canterbury context; needing moist soils.

O Needs full sun or at most only partial shade.

C Tolerant of salt spray and coastal exposure.

S Needs some shelter from strong drying wind and frost; interplant for diversity and wildlife.

**Wildlife value** is the main value of fruits or flowers for birds & lizards. “Berries” is a general term for fleshy fruits eaten by birds and lizards - especially blue fruits in latter case. Most dry fruits are nevertheless associated with flowers that are visited by insects for pollen or nectar.

Formal plant name	common name	suitable zone	frost tender
<i>Lophomyrtus obcordata</i>	rohutu	1,2,3☞☐†	FT
<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>	mahoe	1,2☞☐	FT
<i>Metrosideros umbellata</i>	southern rata	2☞	
<b><i>Muehlenbeckia astonii</i></b>	<b>shrub pohuehue</b>	1,2,3☞☐†	
<b><i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i></b>	<b>scrambling pohuehue</b>	1,2,3,4☞☐†	
<b><i>Myoporum laetum</i></b>	<b>ngaio</b>	1,3☞†	FT
<i>Myrsine australis</i>	mapou, red matipo	1,2☞☐†	FT
<i>Nothofagus fusca</i>	red beech	1,2,3☞†	
<i>Nothofagus solandri</i>	black/mountain beech	1,2,3,4☞†	
<i>Olearia bullata</i>	shrub daisy	1,2,3,4☞☐	
<b><i>Olearia "dartonii"</i></b>	<b>shrub daisy (not local)</b>	1,2,3☞☐†	
<b><i>Olearia fragrantissima</i></b>	<b>scented tree daisy</b>	1,2,3☞†	
<i>Olearia hectori</i>	shrub daisy (not local)	4☞☐	
<i>Olearia lineata</i>	shrub daisy	2,3,4☞☐	
<i>Olearia odorata</i>	shrub daisy	3,4☞	
<b><i>Olearia paniculata</i></b>	<b>golden akeake</b>	1,2,3☞†	
<i>Olearia solandri</i>	coastal shrub daisy (not local)	1,3☞†	
<i>Olearia traversii</i>	Chatham Island akeake (not local)	1,3☞☐†	
<i>Olearia virgata</i>	shrub daisy	1,2,3,4☞	
<b><i>Ozothamnus leptophylla</i></b>	<b>tauhinu</b>	3,4☞†	
<i>Pennantia corymbosa</i>	kaikomako	1,2,3†	FT
<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	karo (not local) & <i>P. ralphii</i> (not local)	1,2,3☞†	FT
<b><i>Pittosporum eugenioides</i></b>	<b>lemonwood, tarata</b>	1,2,3☞†	FT
<b><i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i></b>	<b>kohuhu, black matipo</b>	1,2,3,4☞†	
<b><i>Plagianthus divaricatus</i></b>	<b>marsh ribbonwood</b>	1,3☞☐†	

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† Tolerant of some browsing pressure *once established*.

**Bold names** are robust & vigorous spp in Canterbury in the context of their stated preferences

drought tender	needs full sun	coastal tolerant	needs shelter	growth form	wildlife value
DT			S	small tree	berries
			S	small tree	blue berries
DT	O		S	medium tree	nectar
	O	C		dense deciduous shrub	white berries
	O	C		dense shrub	white berries
	O	C		small tree*	berries
DT		C	S	small tree	purple berries
DT	O		S	tall tree	dry
DT	O		S	tall tree	honey dew
	O			open shrub	nectar
	O			small tree	nectar
DT	O	C		small deciduous tree	nectar
	O			open deciduous shrub	nectar
	O			open shrub	nectar
	O			open shrub	nectar
	O	C		small tree	nectar
	O	C		dense shrub	nectar
	O	C		small tree	nectar
	O			open deciduous shrub	nectar
	O	C		dense shrub	nectar
DT			S	small tree	berries
	O	C		small tree	resin
DT			S	medium tree	resin
		C		medium tree	resin
	O	C		dense shrub	dry

FT The most frost tender spp in Canterbury context (usually absent from zones 3 & 4 unless there is full overhead shelter).

DT The most drought tender spp in Canterbury context; needing moist soils.

O Needs full sun or at most only partial shade.

C Tolerant of salt spray and coastal exposure.

S Needs some shelter from strong drying wind and frost; interplant for diversity and wildlife.

**Wildlife value** is the main value of fruits or flowers for birds & lizards. "*Berries*" is a general term for fleshy fruits eaten by birds and lizards - especially blue fruits in latter case. Most dry fruits are nevertheless associated with flowers that are visited by insects for pollen or nectar.

\* leaves may be poisonous to stock.

Formal plant name	common name	suitable zone	frost tender
<b><i>Plagianthis regius</i></b>	<b>lowland ribbonwood, manatu</b>	1,2,3 †	
<i>Podocarpus acutifolius</i>	sharp-leaved totara (not local)	3 ☐ †	
<b><i>Podocarpus totara/hallii</i></b>	<b>totara/mountain totara</b>	1,2,3,4 ☞ †	
<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>	five-finger, whauwhaupaku	1,2	FT
<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>	lancewood, horoeka	1,2,3	
<i>Pseudopanax ferox</i>	fierce lancewood	1,2,3	
<i>Rubus cissoides</i>	bush lawyer, tataramoa	1,2,3 ☞ †	
<i>Rubus schmidelioides</i>	bush lawyer, tataramoa	1,2,3,4 ☞ ☐ †	
<i>Schefflera digitata</i>	patete, seven-finger	1,2	FT
<b><i>Solanum laciniatum</i></b>	<b>poroporo (short-lived nursery sp.)</b>	1,2,3 ☞ †	FT
<b><i>Sophora microphylla</i></b>	<b>kowhai</b>	1,2,3,4	
<i>Sophora prostrata</i>	prostrate kowhai	3,4 ☞ †	
<i>Teuridium parvifolium</i>	NZ verbena shrub	1,2,3 ☞ ☐	
<b>Tussocks &amp; ferns</b>			
<i>Anemanthele lessoniana</i>	wind grass	1,2,3 †	
<i>Astelia fragrans</i>	bush lily, kakaha	1,2,3 ☐	FT
<i>Carex comans</i>	sedge tussock	3,4 †	
<i>Chionochloa rigida/rubra</i>	snowgrass & red tussock	2,4 ☐ †	
<b><i>Cortaderia richardii</i></b>	<b>toetoe</b>	1,2,3,4 ☐	
<b><i>Phormium tenax</i></b>	<b>NZ flax, harakeke</b>	1,2,3,4 ☐ †	
<i>Poa cita</i>	silver tussock	1,2,3,4 †	
<i>Polystichum richardii</i>	shield fern	1,2,3 ☐	FT
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	bracken fern	1,2,3,4 ☞ ☐ †	

## Key:

### Zones:

These are the regions where the species are most likely to prosper, not the only places they will grow -

- 1 Banks Peninsula & coastal hills
- 2 inland foothills
- 3 Plains
- 4 High country

☞ Able to be trimmed or hedged.

☐ Suitable for low hedges in centre-pivot irrigation (CPI) systems.

† Tolerant of some browsing pressure *once established*.

**Bold names** are robust & vigorous spp in Canterbury in the context of their stated preferences

drought tender	needs full sun	coastal tolerant	needs shelter	growth form	wildlife value
	O	C		medium deciduous tree	dry
	O			small tree	berries
			S	tall tree	berries
DT		C	S	small tree	purple berries
			S	medium tree	berries
	O			small tree	berries
DT			S	vine	berries
				vine	berries
DT			S	small tree	berries
	O	C		small tree*	berries*
	O			medium deciduous tree	nectar
	O	C		dense shrub	nectar
DT	O		S	open shrub	nectar
DT			S	medium tussock	grain
DT			S	tall tussock	berries
	O	C		short tussock	grain
	O			tall tussock	grain
	O	C		tall tussock	grain
	O	C		tall tussock	nectar
	O	C		short tussock	grain
			S	tussock fern	dry
	O			open fern	dry

FT The most frost tender spp in Canterbury context (usually absent from zones 3 & 4 unless there is full overhead shelter).

DT The most drought tender spp in Canterbury context; needing moist soils.

O Needs full sun or at most only partial shade.

C Tolerant of salt spray and coastal exposure.

S Needs some shelter from strong drying wind and frost; interplant for diversity and wildlife.

**Wildlife value** is the main value of fruits or flowers for birds & lizards. "Berries" is a general term for fleshy fruits eaten by birds and lizards - especially blue fruits in latter case. Most dry fruits are nevertheless associated with flowers that are visited by insects for pollen or nectar.

\* leaves and green berries may be poisonous to stock.

## Save the roadside and streambank remnants first

An ounce of protection is worth a ton of restoration. These remnants are the models and seed sources for recovery; they are micro-ecosystems complete with their soils, microbes and native soil fauna. We can't afford to lose them.



*A locally rare small-leaved coprosma (C. intertexta), mid Canterbury*



*Some of the last silver tussocks on the Plains, SH1 south of Chertsey*



*These kanuka remnants at Maronan make fine natural shelter*

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