

PLANTING FOR POLLINATION - NATIVE PLANT SPECIES GUIDE

Keen gardeners can ensure their garden is a pollinator's paradise by using the Landscapes for Life pollinator wheel and this more detailed species list. The table below provides some general information on native plant pollinators and seed dispersal. For further advice and to view native planting guides visit: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

We know that wind, birds, insects, lizards and even bats play a role in the pollination of our unique flora. For some plant species the actual pollination mechanisms are still unknown. Pollination is a largely under researched area of New Zealand plant ecology. We do know that most native plants are pollinated by insects. Flowers often use scents to attract insects, not all these scents are attractive to humans e.g. some flowers attracting flies will smell like rotten meat. Bird-pollinated flowers tend to be large and colourful and often have plenty of nectar to reward the birds e.g. kowhai. Wind-pollinated flowers tend to have small white or pale coloured petals and in some case no petals e.g. carex grasses.

Common name	Plant species	Pollination type					Flower colour	Seed dispersal mechanism
		Wind	Bird	Insect	Lizard	Bat		
Tall trees								
kahikatea	<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	x					cones	bird
rīmu	<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	x					cones	bird
northern rata	<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>		x	x	x		red	wind
pōhutukawa	<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>		x	x	x	x	red	wind
tōtara	<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	x					cones	bird
miro	<i>Prumnopitys ferruginea</i>	x					cones	bird
mataī	<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>					x	cones	bird
rewarewa	<i>Knightia excelsa</i>		x	x		x	red	wind
Trees								
tītoki	<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>			x			white	bird
taraire	<i>Beilschmiedia tarairi</i>		x				pale green	bird
tawa	<i>Beilschmiedia tawa</i>	x	x	x			pale green	bird
karaka	<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>		x	x			white	bird
kohekohe	<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>		x	x			white	bird
kānuka	<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>			x	x		white	wind
pukatea	<i>Laurelia novaezelandia</i>	x		x			pale yellow/ green	wind
kōhūhū, pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>		x	x			dark red	bird
kōwhai	<i>Sophora microphylla</i>		x				yellow	gravity/ water
pūriri	<i>Vitex lucens</i>		x				pink	bird
Large shrubs								
makomako, wineberry	<i>Aristotelia serrata</i>			x			pink	bird
rangiora	<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>			x			white	wind/gravity
NZ broom	<i>Carmichaelia australis</i>			x			white/pink	gravity
putaputawētā	<i>Carpodetus serratus</i>			x			white	gravity
māmāngi	<i>Coprosma arborea</i>	x					green	bird/ insect/ lizard
kanono	<i>Coprosma grandifolia</i>	x					green	bird/ insect/ lizard
shining karamū	<i>Coprosma lucida</i>	x					green	bird/ insect/ lizard
karamū	<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	x					green	bird/ insect/ lizard
ti kōuka, cabbage tree	<i>Cordyline australis</i>			x			white	bird
kōtukutuku, tree fuchsia	<i>Fuchsia excorticata</i>		x				pink	bird
hangehange	<i>Geniostoma ligustrifolia</i>			x			green	bird

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Tall trees								
pigeonwood	<i>Hedycarya arborea</i>			x			green	bird
houhere, lacebark	<i>Hoheria populnea</i>			x			white	wind
mānuka	<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>			x	x		white	wind
kawakawa	<i>Macropiper excelsum</i>	x					pale green	bird/lizard
māhoe	<i>Melicytus ramiflorus</i>			x			pale yellow	bird
māpou	<i>Myrsine australis</i>		x	x			pale yellow	bird
akepiro	<i>Olearia furfuracea</i>			x			cream	wind
whauwhaupaku, five finger	<i>Pseudopanax arboreus</i>			x			cream	bird
horoeka, lancewood	<i>Pseudopanax crassifolius</i>			x			white/green	bird
nikau	<i>Rhopalostylis sapida</i>		x	x	x	x	yellow	bird/lizard
patē, seven finger	<i>Schefflera digitata</i>			x			white pale green	bird
Shrubs								
korokio	<i>Corokia buddleioides</i>			x			yellow	bird
koromiko	<i>Hebe macrocarpa</i>			x		x	white	gravity
koromiko	<i>Hebe stricta</i>			x			white	gravity
poataniwha	<i>Melicope simplex</i>			x			pale green	gravity
wharariki, mountain flax	<i>Phormium cookianum</i>		x	x	x		yellow	wind
haraheke, flax	<i>Phormium tenax</i>		x	x	x		red	wind
kumarahou	<i>Pomaderris kumeraho</i>			x			yellow	gravity
tauhinu	<i>Pomaderris ericfolia</i>			x			cream	gravity
taurepo	<i>Rhabdothamnus solandri</i>		x				orange/red	
Climbers/trailing plants								
puawānanga	<i>Clematis paniculata</i>			x			white	wind
white climbing rata	<i>Metrosideros diffusa</i>			x	x		white	wind
kaiku, NZ jasmine	<i>Parsonsia heterophylla</i>			x			white	gravity
bush lawyer	<i>Rubus australis</i>			x			white	bird
Low ground plants								
bidibid	<i>Acaena anserinifolia</i>			x			white	wind, bird
tūrutu	<i>Dianella nigra</i>			x			white	bird/gravity
wire vine	<i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i>			x	x		white	bird/lizard
bush flax	<i>Astelia fragrans</i>			x	x		green	bird/lizard
coastal astelia	<i>Astelia banksii</i>			x	x		white	bird/lizard
mīkoikoi, NZ iris	<i>Libertia ixioides</i>			x			white	wind
mīkoikoi, NZ iris	<i>Libertia grandifolia</i>			x			white	wind
rengarenga lily	<i>Arthropodium cirratum</i>			x			white	wind/gravity
Grasses								
pukoi	<i>Carex virgata</i>	x					pale brown	wind/ water
forest sedge	<i>Carex lambertiana</i>	x					brown	wind
toetoe	<i>Austroderia fulvida</i>	x					cream	wind/water
toetoe	<i>Austroderia splendens</i>	x					cream	wind/water



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