

Sue McGaw, (NZCD Arch, B Com Hort, MSc. Ecol)
"Special Projects with Plants."
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I am a Biodiversity Consultant, Biodiversity Field Technician and Practical Conservation Educator with over forty years of experience in the field.

Recent work in Biodiversity areas include revegetation or restoration of new projects, repair of old projects or scattered existing native remnants, study and research in second-stage restoration, threatened plant species and Rongoa Maori plants (medicinal practice of benefit to both humans and animals), and long-term maintenance of existing native projects. Also Lizard habitat rehabilitation planting in the upper Rakaia. Areas I have worked in include Selwyn, Waimakariri, Hurunui, Kaikoura, Marlborough, West Coast, Northland and Central North Island.

My two particular areas of interest are:

- I. What does it take to get 100% success rate in plant establishment? What can we do to increase biodiversity and add species that belong in our area back into our areas?
- II. Can we raise the industry standard in plant choices, planting techniques, & plant establishment to consequently make the contributions and efforts by landowners and funding bodies really count towards the future with a meaningful legacy?

Some other things I do:

- Evaluate project areas
- Construct budgets for procuring plants, planting and action tasks
- Construct plant data-bases and identify local plants
- Construct practical as well as extending plant lists relevant to the site which include winter bird food, and plant species relevant to increased biodiversity possibilities and services
- Plan across many areas of a project, i.e. set up, future maintenance practice, 2nd, 3rd stages extending projects
- Plant sourcing & plant layouts,
- Any special project involving plants, native or exotic
- Handling, and propagation of rare plants, or organising for it to be done.
- Contribute to the iNaturalist NZ data-base
- Organise community based biodiversity workshops