

# Wetland and river/stream margin native plants



## Further information:

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Grown from seed  
collected from  
Motukarara and  
Christchurch  
native vegetation  
remnants

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Otukaikino Wetland

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The Christchurch natural vegetation pattern in pre-human times was diverse. Between the floodplains of the northern rivers, the estuary and coastal dunes in the east and the loess-capped basalt of the Port Hills to the south, there was a huge mosaic of open swampland, swamp forest, woodland and tussock grassland.

Riccarton Bush is a fine example of the tall podocarp/ hardwood forest that once thrived on the poorly drained alluvial sediments of the Waimakariri River and its tributaries.

The species represented in the display garden are a sample of the Christchurch and Motukarara wetlands, and river- and stream-margin plants. Other plant species appropriate to Christchurch can be found in our Coastal, Banks Peninsula and Canterbury Plains gardens.

Consult the Motukarara Nursery catalogue or other recommended literature for the height and spread of species, environmental preferences and tolerances.

For the selection of the native plants natural to different areas of Christchurch, see the *Ecosystem Maps of Christchurch* published by Christchurch Otautahi Agenda 21 Committee or the *Streamside Planting Guide*, published by the Water Services Unit of the Christchurch City Council.

**M = moist soils**  
**S = swamp/boggy areas**  
**WE = water's edge**  
**SM = salt marsh**  
**FD = Free draining areas**

*Apodasmia similis*, oioi, jointed wire rush (S)  
*Austroderia richardii*, toetoe (M)  
*Baumea rubiginosa*, New Zealand sedge (S)  
*Bolboschoenus caldwelii*, purua, sedge (M/S)  
*Bulbinella angustifolia*, Māori onion (FD)  
*Carex bueharianii*, matirewa, cutty grass (S/WE)  
*Carex flagellifera*, mānia, tussock grass (FD)  
*Carex flaviformis*, pūrei, yellow sedge (S/WE)  
*Carex geminata*, rautahi, cutty grass (S/WE)  
*Carex maorica* (S)  
*Carex secta*, pūkio (S/WE)  
*Carex solandri* (M/S/WE)  
*Carex virgata*, swamp sedge (S)  
*Coprosma propinqua*, mingimingi (M/S)  
*Coprosma robusta*, karamū (M/S)  
*Cordyline australis*, tī kōuka, cabbage tree (M)

*Cyperus ustulatus*, toetoe, giant umbrella sedge (M/S)  
*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*, kahikatea, white pine (M)  
*Elaeocarpus hookerianus*, pōkākā (M)  
*Eleocharis acuta*, sharp spike sedge (M/S/WE)  
*Hebe salicifolia*, koromiko (M)  
*Juncus caespiticius*, wī, grass-leaved rush (S)  
*Juncus edgariae*, wī, leafless rush (M/S)  
*Juncus pallidus*, wī, giant rush, leafless rush (S/WE)  
*Juncus planifolius*, wī (S/WE)  
*Juncus sarophorus*, wī (S/WE)  
*Leptospermum scoparium*, mānuka, tea tree (M)  
*Lophomyrtus obcordata*, rōhutu, New Zealand myrtle (M)  
*Mazus novae-zelandiae* subsp. *impolitus mazus* (M/S)  
*Microlaena avenacea*  
*Phormium tenax*, harakeke, New Zealand flax (M/S)  
*Pittosporum tenuifolium*, kōhūhu (M)  
*Schoenoplectus pungens*, three square (M/S)  
*Schoenoplectus validus*, lake clubrush (S/WE)  
*Schoenus pauciflorus* (S)  
*Zotovia avenacea*, pātītī, bush rice grass (M)

Moist soils

Swampy/boggy areas

Water's edge

