

Galaxiid Factsheet

Plants to enhance streambanks that run alongside galaxiid creeks in Central Otago



BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SITE:			NOTES
		WET	MOIST	DRIER	
<i>Carex secta</i>	<i>purei</i>	●	●		Sedge grows vigorously, forming large, upright tufts reaching up to 1.5m in height. It provides good shade for galaxiids.
<i>Carex virgata</i>		●	●		Similar to <i>Carex secta</i> but handles slightly drier conditions. Reaches up to 1.2m in height.
<i>Austroderia richardii</i>	toetoe	●	●		Reaching heights of up to 3m when flowering, toetoe proves useful for retaining steep banks. Avoid planting pampas - an invasive weed. Toetoe has light golden, drooping flowerheads, while pampas has upright flowerheads in creamy white or pinkish-purple hues.
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	harakeke, swamp flax	●			Growing up to 3m in height, this large flax is well-suited to wet swampy sites. It offers shade to galaxiids and serves as a nectar source for tui, bellbirds, and waxeyes. It can cause blockages (when bigger) if planted in or right next to flowing creeks - best to plant at least 1-2m from the water's edge.
<i>Phormium cookianum</i>	wharariki, mountain flax	●	●		A smaller flax, reaching up to 1.5m, able to cope with less moisture than swamp flax.
<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	kahikatea	●	●		Suitable for damp ground and wetland areas, NZ's tallest native tree has the potential to grow up to 50m tall. Establish pioneer species first.
<i>Sophora microphylla</i>	kōwhai		●	●	A wonderful tough tree capable of reaching heights up to 10m, offering spring nectar for bellbirds and tui. Source seed from wild trees in Central Otago as our provenance is quicker to reach flowering stage.
<i>Plagianthus regius</i>	mānatu, ribbonwood		●	●	Fast growing tree that can reach a height of 10m, with separate male and female trees.
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree, tī kōuka		●		To 5m, with small white fruits attractive to birds.
<i>Olearia lineata</i>		●	●	●	Forms a small bushy tree to 6m. At Risk – Declining.
<i>Olearia odorata</i>	scented tree daisy		●	●	Bushy shrub to 2.5m, with wonderful scent when in flower.
<i>Olearia hectori</i>	Hector's tree daisy		●		Shrub or small tree to 10m tall. Threatened – Nationally Endangered.
<i>Coprosma propinqua</i>	mingimingi		●	●	
<i>Coprosma rugosa</i>			●	●	Shrub to 2m.
<i>Coprosma virescens</i>			●	●	Shrub to 2m. At Risk – Declining.
<i>Veronica salicifolia</i>	koromiko		●		Shrub to 2.5m. New name for <i>Hebe salicifolia</i> .



KEY TIPS:

- Select the site, and order suitable species and numbers of plants required.
- If watercress is an issue, plant taller species on northern banks to create shade. Aim for long shaded areas to mitigate the watercress issue.
- Pre-planting site preparation is key to success:
 - fence to exclude stock
 - spot spray to reduce smothering well in advance of planting and follow Growsafe guidelines.
- Plants should be fully hardened to the elements they will encounter. Plants fresh from a shadehouse will experience adverse effects.
- Keep plants moist before planting. Soak by submerging in water.
- Optimal planting time varies depending on species and site. Planting in late March – April when the weather is cooler gives time for root growth and better survival during the following summer. However, for wetter sites, spring is a viable option.
- Protect from browsing with guards – currently the waxed biodegradable cardboard FiberGuards are the best choice to protect from hares, rabbits, pūkeko and herbicide damage. Available in 300mm or 450mm height options.
- Post-planting maintenance to remove weeds and growth around plants is another key to success.
- Particular care is needed if using agrichemicals near a waterway. If galaxiids are exposed to spray, it impacts their immune system and makes them more susceptible to disease. Use a spray guard and carefully hand-spray in calm weather around the plants to avoid getting spray in the waterway. Follow Growsafe guidelines for best practice.

