

Flora Exotic List

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Ref.	Scientific	Common	Content
2001	Ulmus glabra 'Lutescens'	Golden Elm	This cultivar is a medium sized deciduous tree growing to 15 metres with a spreading crown. In spring clusters of light green flowers appear on bare branches followed by tough, bright lime-green ridged leaves. It is a common amenity plant in the United Kingdom and Australasia.
2002	Prunus serrulata 'Shirotae'	Mt Fuji blossom tree	A small to medium sized (up to eight metres) deciduous tree with a broad spreading form. Pink blossoms mature to fragrant, double and semi-double white flowers which hang in clusters during October – November. The leaves which follow are large and pale green turning to bright yellow in autumn.
2003	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	A native of southern Europe, the sycamore in noted for its tolerance of wind, pollution and salt spray and is thus popular for city plantings. However, it seeds profusely and seedlings can establish in shade so can become a weed problem. Clusters of yellow-green flowers are produced in spring.
2004	Platanus x acerfolia	London Plane	This large deciduous tree (grows to 35 metres) is a cross between the American and Oriental plane. It has mottled grey bark and spherical flowers and fruits. Widely used in street plantings in North America, Europe, and in some New Zealand towns. Noted for its tolerance of air pollution.
2005	Poplar trichocarpa x deltoids 'Generosa'	Poplar	Very fast growing, spreading tree that can reach 40 metres. Sterile flowers appear in late winter, no seed is set. Reproduces vegetatively. Although a cross between two American poplars it is widely grown in Europe and Australasia. Used as a pulp timber crop in the United States.
2006	Bhutan Cyprus		Text + Illustration
2007		Bunya bunya pine	Text content pending.
2008		Canary pine	Text content pending.
2009	Cryptomeria japonica	Japanese Cedar\Sugi	Sugi can grow to over 50 metres with a girth of 10 metres. Younger trees are conical but their form becomes more irregular as they age. They can live for 2000 years. Sugi is japan's national tree where it is often planted around shrines and temples.
2010		Hoop Pine	Text content pending.
	Flora-Exotic Species List - Master		11/02/2021 1

2011	Norfolk Pine	Text content pending.
2012 Platanus acerifolia	Plane Tree	Text content pending.
2013 Prunus serulata	Japanese Cherry	Text content pending.
2014 Agathis robusta	Queensland Kauri	Native to Queensland, Australia, this solid tree that can exceed 40 metres in height. In the past it was logged for use in furniture, boat building and turning. It is faster growing than the New Zealand kauri, with bigger leaves and cones.
2015 Sequoia sempervirens	COASTAL REDWOOD	These slender conifers are the world's tallest trees, reaching 115 metres. They can live 1000 years and more. Sempervirens means 'forever living'. Seed and pollen cones occur on the same tree. The feathery needles become scale-like towards the crown. Native to wet parts of coastal California.
2016 Cupressus sempervirens "stricta"	ITALIAN CYPRESS	Also known as Mediterranean cypress, Graveyard cypress or pencil pine. Distinct for their narrow shape. The scented wood was used in building European churches. They are symbols of mourning in many religions. They are fire resistant. They bend in even the slightest breeze.
2017 Aesculus x carne	RED HORSE CHESTNUT	Deciduous, a hybrid of unknown origin, but now found throughout Europe. Red horse chestnuts first appeared in Germany in 1820. They have become popular in large gardens and parks around the world. They are medium-sized trees – growing up to 25m tall. Red horse chestnuts provide a dense shade, and have shallow roots. For this reason they were often planted in Germany to cool underground beer cellars. This lead to the tradition of beer gardens. The chestnuts – also called 'conkers' – are used in a children's game. The chestnuts are toxic and cannot be eaten.
2018 Quercus robur	ENGLISH OAK	Deciduous, from Europe. The English oaks were planted to remind colonists of their northern hemisphere home countries, and to symbolize strength and continuity in their new land. They were planted in a grid, alternating with conifers. It is possible that Andrew and William Goldie, early gardeners in the city and relatives of mayor Archibald Clark, had an involvement in planting some of the originals oaks in the cemetery. Oaks can be self-grafting (unlike pōhutukawas). Where branches rub up against each other without too much movement, the tissue of the two branches can grow together again to form a lattice-like structure. This can work to strengthen the tree. Oaks produce very hard and durable timber, but it can take over 100 years
2019 Fraxinus excelsior	EUROPEAN ASH	Deciduous, from Europe and south-west Asia. Their 'helicopter seeds' are the most distinctive feature of ash trees, which can grow up to 18m. Ash trees can be coppiced. That means they re-grow from their roots when cut down, so can provide an ongoing source of timber. Ash trees are also often pollarded – cut at head height, so a dense new canopy can grow. The wood from ash trees is hard and tough. It has been used to make the shafts for tools, tennis racquets, snooker cues and aircraft frames.
2020 Quercus palustris	PIN OAK	Deciduous, from eastern and central USA. Medium-sized trees, growing to 22m. Younger trees have a pyramid shape; older trees have a more open, spreading canopy. Maximum lifespan 120 years. Pin oaks are popular street trees because they are easy to transplant, grow quickly, and can tolerate pollution. Young trees under 6m do not lose their (dead) leaves in winter, a habit known as 'marcescence.' As with other 'red oak' species, the round acorns are too bitter for people to eat – but wildlife species will turn to them after their preferred 'white oak' acorns have run out.
2021 Liquidambar styraciflua	LIQUID AMBER	Deciduous, native to south-east USA and Mexico. Presents a vibrant display of red seven-pointed leaves in autumn. Known as liquid amber due to the gum resin. A tall and straight growing habit, soft, cork-like bark and distinctive spiky fruit. In the USA timber from these trees is highly prized in carpentry.
Flora-Exotic Species List - Master	r	11/02/2021 2

2022	Quercus ilex	HOLM OAK	Evergreen, native to the Mediterranean region. Holm oaks are big long-lived trees in New Zealand, growing to 28m with a spreading canopy. They can also be formed into hedges, suitable for coastal windbreaks. Holm oaks cannot tolerant severe frost, but are now spreading into colder places due to climate change. Acorns are edible, and an important food source for pigs raised for Ibérico ham. Holm oak roots are also hosts to truffles. The wood is hard and tough, and has been used for pillars, tools, wine casks and wagon-building.
2023	Quercus coccinea	SCARLETT OAK	Deciduous, from eastern and central USA. Scarlet oaks are often mistaken for pin oaks. But the big difference are the very bright red leaves of scarlet oaks in autumn. Pin oak leaves are more bronze-coloured. Scarlet oaks are taller, narrower (more cylindrical in shape) with a less spreading canopy than most oaks. The outward branches tend to droop at their ends. After soaking to remove tannins and toxins, the acorns can be ground to make a flour or roasted as a coffee substitute.
2024	Quercus suber	CORK OAK	The main feature of cork oaks is their thick, soft bark, – the primary source for corks for wine bottles. The cork can be carefully peeled from the trees, starting when the trees are about 25 years old. About 12 harvests are possible in the life of each tree. The insulating bark is an adaptation to forest fire. The tree re-sprouts quickly from protected branches. Cork oaks can be tall trees, up to 20m, but are usually shorter in their natural habitat. They are not common in New Zealand. The trees are national treasures in Portugal, where it is illegal to fell them. The acorns are a food source for people, high in protein and carbohydrates. They are eaten by wild animals and domestic pigs, but are toxic to horses.
2025	Populus yunnanensis	CHINESE POPLAR	Deciduous, from eastern Asia. There are 35 diverse species of poplar, ranging across the northern hemisphere. These come from China. They are fast-growing trees, growing to 30m, that can stand drought and cold. Trunks are heavily branched, leading to wide crowns. The bark becomes rougher as the trees get older. Their flowers are arranged in slim cylindrical clusters called 'catkins.' The leaves are unpalatable to possums, but are used as fodder for livestock. Chinese poplars are sometimes planted for soil conservation as they can stabilise steep slopes.
2026	Casuarina cunninghamiana	SHEOAK	Evergreen, endemic to Australia. The presence of these river sheoak trees in the cemetery may indicate graves of people with Australian connections. Sheoaks can tolerate severe droughts, but are not as tolerant of bushfire as eucalyptus trees. What look like cones are actually woody fruit. Male sheoak trees bear no fruit, and are sometimes called 'heoaks.' Fossils of closely-related trees date back to the time of the super-continent Gondwana.
2027	Ulmus x hollandica	DUTCH ELM	Deciduous, from Europe. Elms are a very common exotic tree throughout New Zealand. Elms are a widespread genus, with 30-40 species in Europe, North America and Asia. They are familiar trees in European cities, so were planted here for nostalgic reasons. The trees grow to 40m tall. Dutch elm disease, caused by a micro-fungus transmitted by beetles, arrived in here in 1989. Auckland's 17,000 trees are all vulnerable. Many have been destroyed by it already. Tough elm wood is perfect for longbows. Hollow logs were used as waterpipes in medieval Europe.
2028	Prunus campanulata 'superba'	TAIWANESE CHERRY	A hardy deciduous tree with narrowly spreading branches. Its clusters of pink to deep red decorative flowers are very popular with tui. Occurring in late winter or early spring, they are followed by glossy scarlet fruit. Seeds readily dispersed by birds and can be weedy.
2029	Prunus serrulata 'Shimidsu Sakura'	ASAHI BOTAN CHERRY	A small Japanese cherry cultivar, with heavy drooping clusters of double flowers appearing in late spring. The bright pink buds become pale as they open. Flowering can coincide with the first leaves. The leaves turn red-orange before the autumn leaf-fall.
2030	Betula pendula	SILVER BIRCH	At 50 years B.pendula is a short-lived deciduous tree with distinctive black and white papery bark. Drooping male catkins and upright female flowers appear in early spring. Pollinated female flowers elongate and form plump catkins containing hundreds of tiny winged seeds.
2031	Ginkgo biloba	GINKGO / MAINDENHAIR TREE	A deciduous tree of ancient lineage, native to China. Leaf extracts have medicinal properties but can cause side effects and interfere with other medications. The nut-like seed is a traditional food though large amounts are poisonous. The leaves turn a striking yellow in autumn.
2032	— Cinnamomum camphora	CAMPHOR LAUREL	Native to Asia, the highly aromatic leaves and oil have been used as medicine, insecticide, deodorant and wood preserver. However, large doses are poisonous. Clusters of small white flowers appear in spring and summer. Green berries follow, turning black by late autumn.

2033	Castanea sativa	Sweet chestnut	Text content pending.
2034	Taxodium distichum	SWAMP CYPRESS	A deciduous conifer native to SE USA. Grows to 40m, thriving in a swampy habitat. Woody knees grow vertically from the roots, possibly providing structural support. Feathery foliage turns orange/brown in autumn. This ancient species is long-lived with the timber highly valued for carpentry and roof shingles.
2035	Acacia melanoxylon	AUSTRALIAN BLACKWOOD	Native to south eastern Australia, reaching up to 20m this fast growing species is much used as a farm forestry tree. The wood provides an attractive decorative timber, the veneers used in cabinetry and guitar making while boat builders value the tough, durable and easily bent wood.
2036	Grevillea robusta	SILKY OAK	Fast growing evergreen, reaching 30m, native to eastern Australia. Valued for its graceful foliage and orange flower clusters attracting our local kakas. The fern-like leaves are pale green and greyish underneath. Resistant to wood rot, it was once widely used for window joinery. Guitar makers favour its tonal qualities.
2037	Carya illinoinensis	PECAN	Species of hickory native to Nth Mexico and southern USA favouring free-draining riverbanks. Deciduous, growing to 40m, pecans are slow to mature and bear fruit, the seed being an edible nut. The timber is used for flooring and furniture making, as well as being an excellent fuel for smoking meats.

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7