

MANUKA because ...

(*Leptospermum scoparium*)

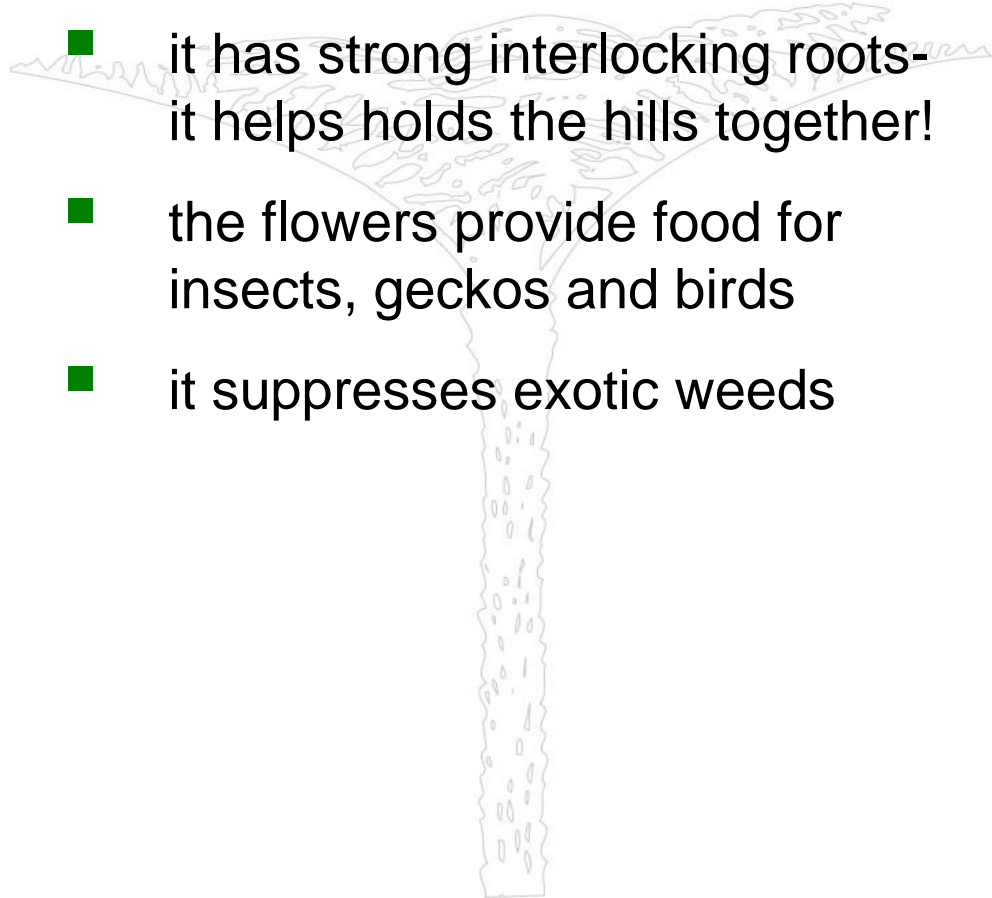
- it's adaptable and hardy - grows well in a range of places & shelters other plants – a pioneer species
- its white flowers attract insects, geckos and birds. The Manuka Chafer beetle and stick insects love it
- it provides habitat for Auckland's increasingly rare, common green gecko



KANUKA because ...

(*Kunzea ericoides*)

- it shelters other plants - it's a pioneer species
- it has strong interlocking roots- it helps hold the hills together!
- the flowers provide food for insects, geckos and birds
- it suppresses exotic weeds



KARAMU because...

(*Coprosma robusta*)

- although short lived (20-30 ys), it quickly attracts birds which drop seeds of other native plants to create a naturally diverse forest
- lizards love the berries
- it builds a rich, deep leaf litter for insects which protects the soil from drying out



POHUTUKAWA because...

(Metrosideros excelsa)

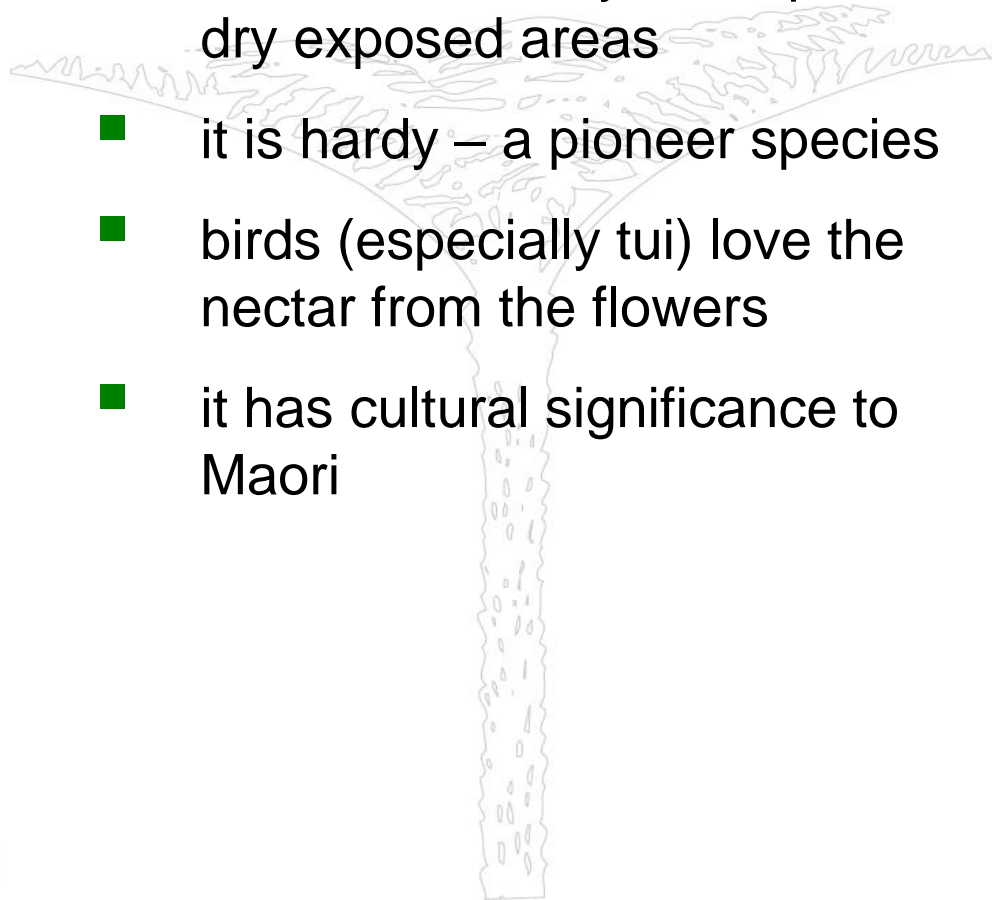
- it is well adapted to coastal places – tolerating strong, salty winds
- its spreading roots reduce erosion
- it is a ‘kiwi’ icon – and cheers us with its bright red flowers at Christmas time.
- it feeds birds, lizards and insects - producing nectar night and day
- It is a great shade provider for us and for understorey plants



HARAKEKE because...

FLAX (*Phormium tenax*)

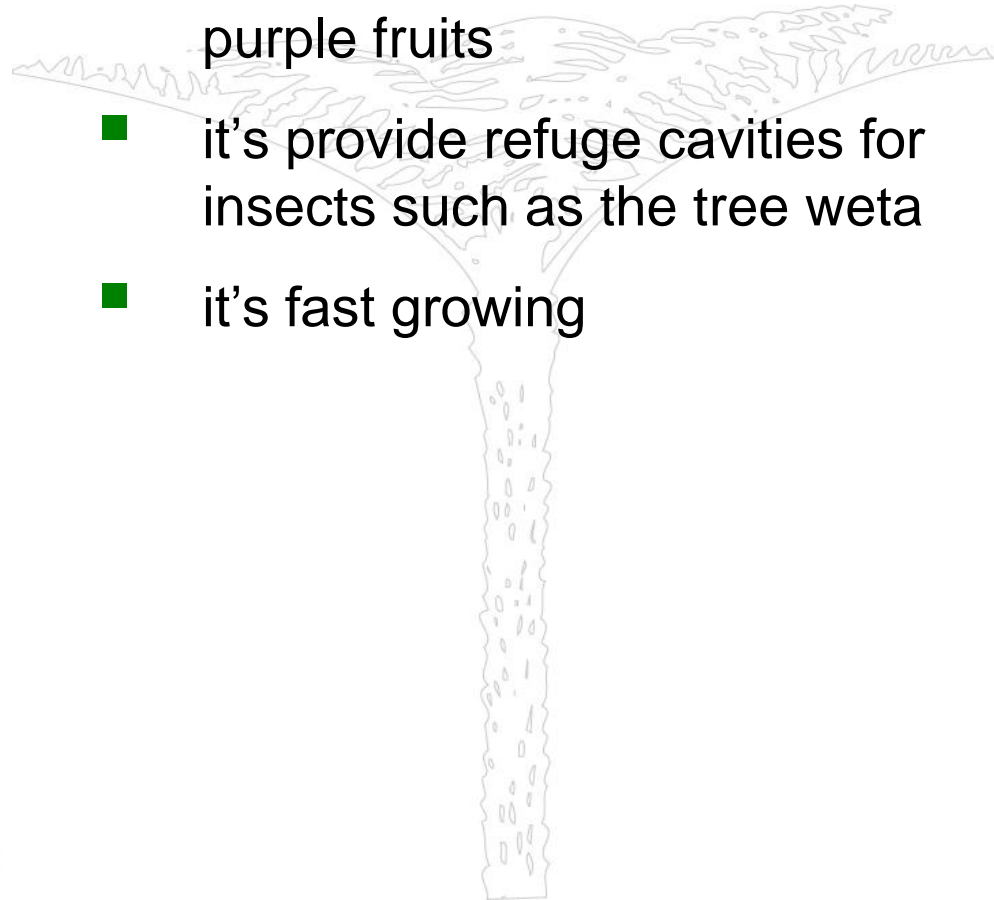
- it's adaptable – thrives on stream banks, by swamps, & in dry exposed areas
- it is hardy – a pioneer species
- birds (especially tui) love the nectar from the flowers
- it has cultural significance to Maori



MAHOE because...

(Melicytus ramiflorus)

- birds, especially silvereyes, tui and bellbirds love the nectar and purple fruits
- it's provide refuge cavities for insects such as the tree weta
- it's fast growing



CABBAGE TREE because ...

(Ti) (*Cordyline australis*)

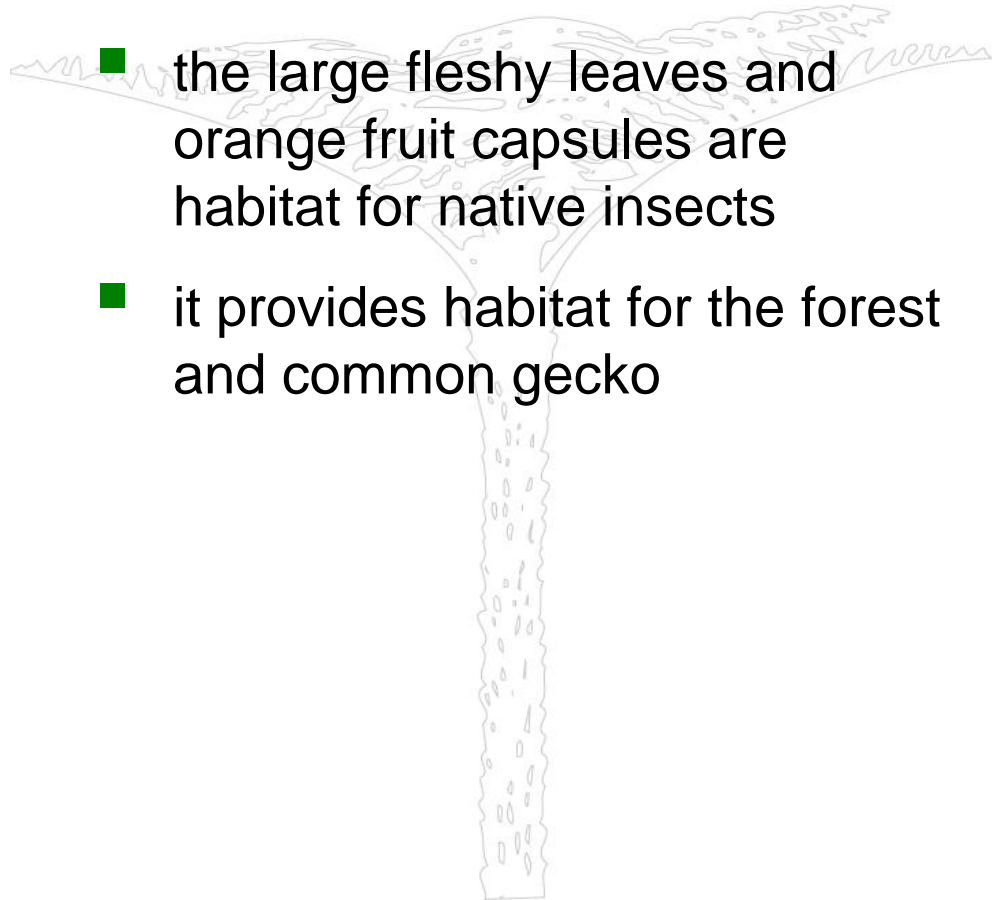
- it's adaptable - it can live in all sorts of places - on the coast, inland, in wetlands and forests
- many birds eat the abundant fruit
- it grows easily and quickly from seed
- the hanging dead leaves around trunk are fantastic refuges for insects and geckos



KOHEKOHE because...

(Dysoxylum spectabile)

- the flowers and fruits provide food for kereru and tui
- the large fleshy leaves and orange fruit capsules are habitat for native insects
- it provides habitat for the forest and common gecko



KAHIKATEA because...

(Dacrycarpus dacrydioides)

- it grows well in damp, swampy places. Buttressed roots give it stability in swampy ground
- Fleshy orange fruits provide abundant food for kereru, silvereyes & tui

Kahikatea swamp forests were once a common feature of lowland NZ – many have been lost due to land clearance and drainage. It is New Zealand's tallest native tree.



PUREI because...

(*Carex secta*)

- it's a wetland sedge, which reduces erosion by binding the soil together
- it provides shelter and habitat for wetland birds like the spotless crane and ducks
- it filters and traps pollutants and sediment
- it's great for stream edge planting – doesn't impede flow

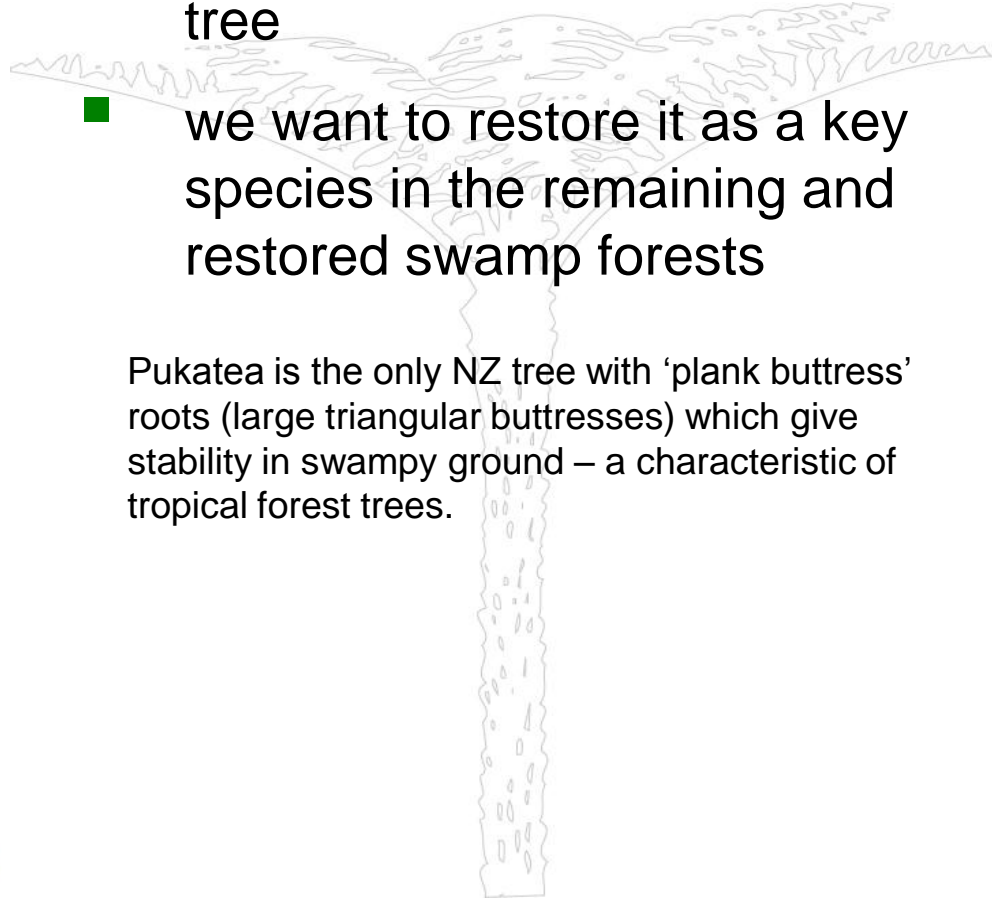


PUKATEA because...

(Laurelia novae-zelandiae)

- it thrives in wet ground and by stream edges – a good swamp tree
- we want to restore it as a key species in the remaining and restored swamp forests

Pukatea is the only NZ tree with 'plank buttress' roots (large triangular buttresses) which give stability in swampy ground – a characteristic of tropical forest trees.



PURIRI because...

(Vitex lucens)

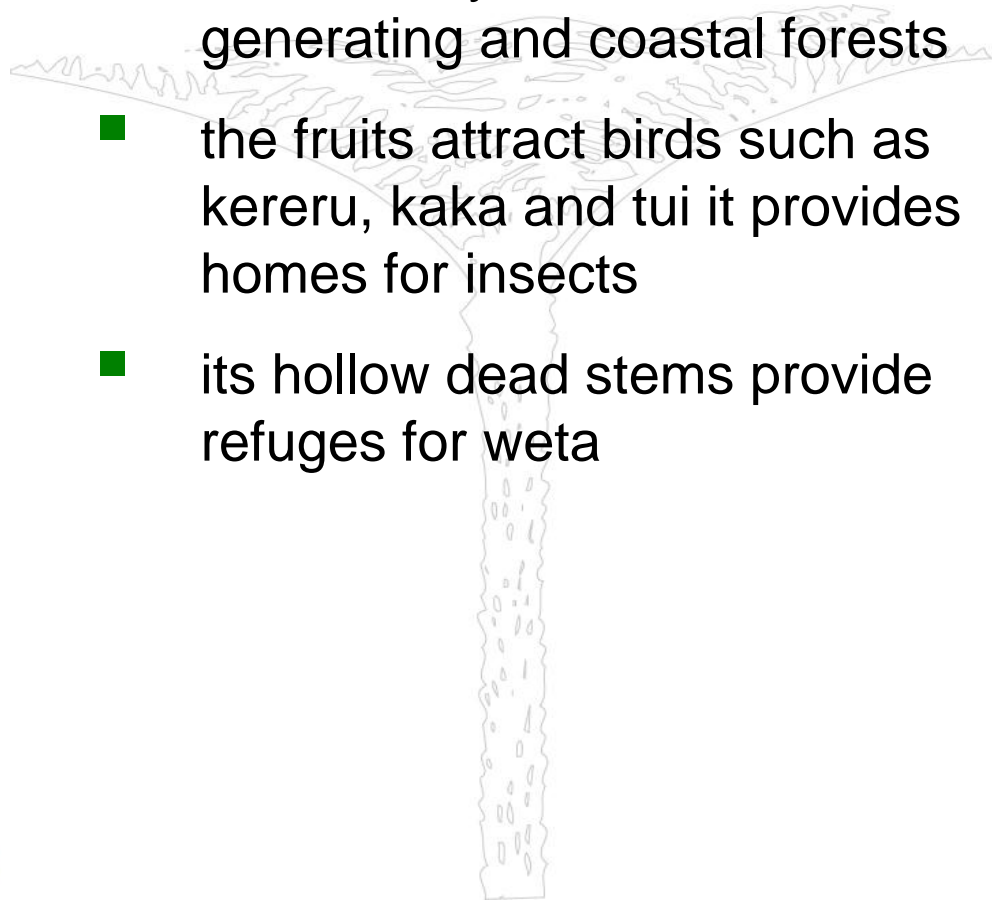
- it is a real native 'lolly tree' for wildlife - it flowers and fruits throughout the year.
- crevices and cracks in older trees provide refuges and nesting sites for insects, spiders, weta and lizards and hole nesting birds like moreporks and kingfishers.
- its high rate of leaf turnover makes great leaf litter for ground insects



KAWAKAWA because...

(Macropiper excelsum)

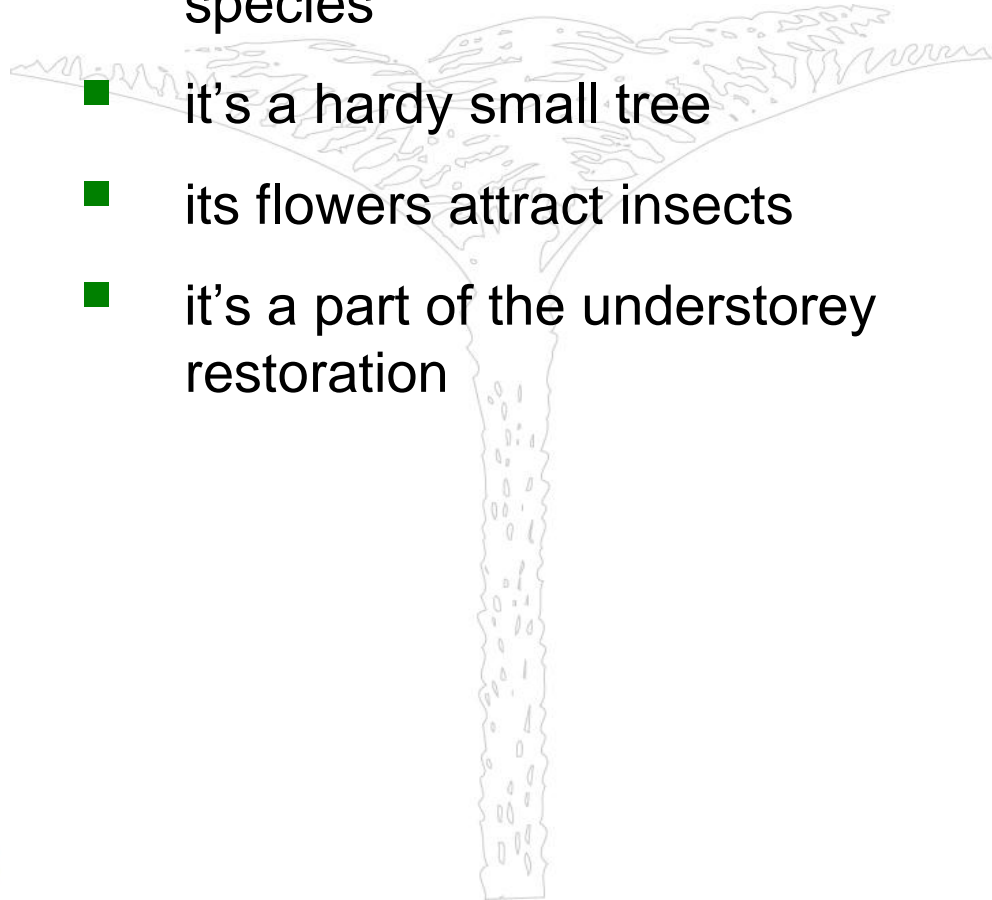
- it is an important shade loving, understorey shrub in regenerating and coastal forests
- the fruits attract birds such as kereru, kaka and tui it provides homes for insects
- its hollow dead stems provide refuges for weta



KOROMIKO because...

(*Hebe stricta*)

- it is a fast growing pioneer species
- it's a hardy small tree
- its flowers attract insects
- it's a part of the understorey restoration

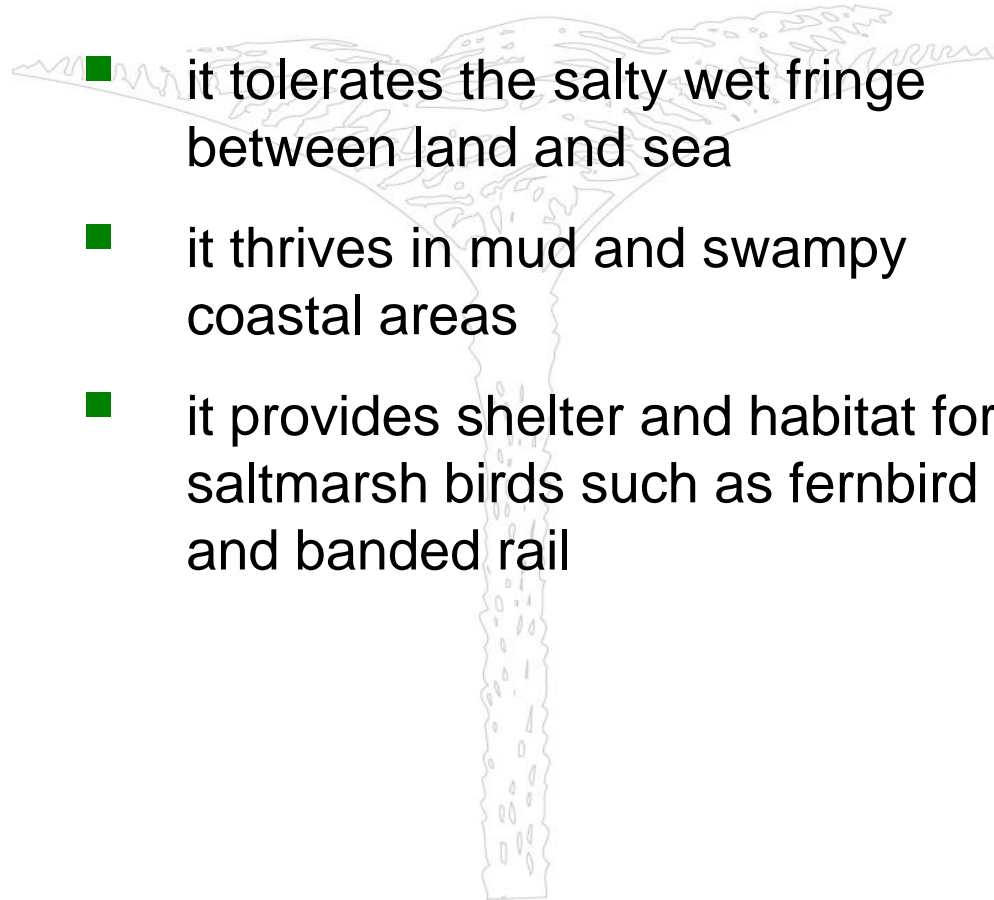


SALTMARSH RIBBONWOOD

Makaka (*Plagianthus divaricatus*)

because...

- it tolerates the salty wet fringe between land and sea
- it thrives in mud and swampy coastal areas
- it provides shelter and habitat for saltmarsh birds such as fernbird and banded rail



KOWHAI because...

(*Sophora microphylla*)

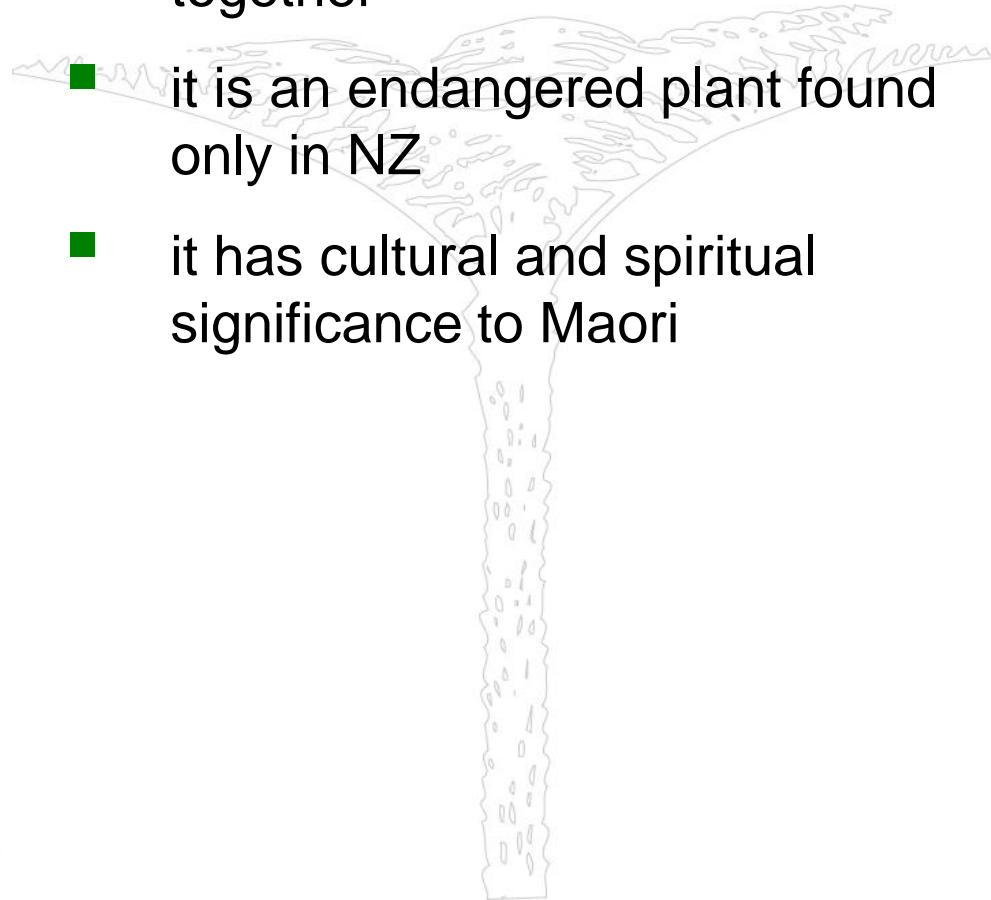
- birds are lured by the nectar especially tui, and for us the beautiful bright yellow flowers are a sure sign of spring
- it is fast growing
- it's adaptable – it can live in open sites, stream banks, rocky places and coastal areas.



PINGAO because...

(Desmoschoenus spiralis)

- it helps to hold the sand dunes together
- it is an endangered plant found only in NZ
- it has cultural and spiritual significance to Maori



SPINFEX because...

(*Spinifex sericeus*)

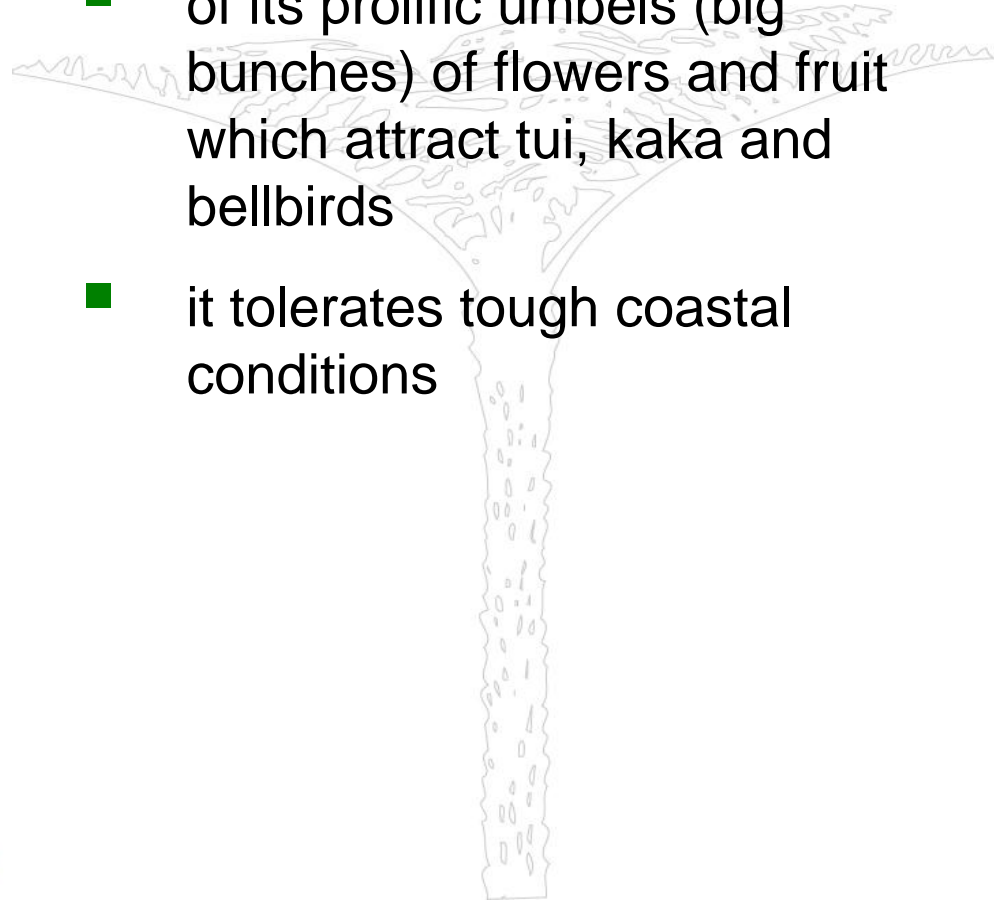
- it has sand binding qualities – its strong, long, leafy runners spread and hold the sand.
- it provides shelter and concealment for the NZ dotterel nests and young
- it provides habitat for katipo spiders



FIVE FINGER because...

(*Pseudopanax arboreus*)

- it's a good colonising plant
- of its prolific umbels (big bunches) of flowers and fruit which attract tui, kaka and bellbirds
- it tolerates tough coastal conditions



POHUEHUE because...

(muehlenbeckia complexa)

- the small berries provide food for birds, lizards and large insects to eat!
- it suppresses weeds and helps retain soil moisture
- it binds sand dunes

