

Planting Trees for Wildlife

AUCKLAND/WAIKATO

TREES FOR DAMP AREAS

Introduction

The value of planting trees to enhance wildlife habitat has long been recognized by the Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Council. This pamphlet describes some of the preferred trees which have proved to be excellent in the past.

Site preparation and care of plants

There are many easy things you can do to give your trees a head start:

1. Put good topsoil around roots
 2. Exclude stock with adequate fencing
 3. Water well especially initially
 4. Fertilizer desirable (also mulch/rotted hay)
 5. Staking referable if exposed
 6. Control weeds in early years
 7. Pest control by traps or poison (esp. possum & rabbits)
- For a small investment of time and money the rewards can be tremendous.

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Swamp Cypress *Taxodium Distichum*

Height:	7 x 4m (up to 50cm)
Description:	Fast growing Hardy Deciduous Can plant in very wet conditions Can form large buttress in wet
Soil Types:	Tolerates poor drainage Can be planted in very wet conditions
Fruit:	Female and male cones
Timing of fruit:	February - April 10 years to fruit
Benefits to Wildlife:	Food and cover for ducks



Black Tupelo *Nyssa sylvatica*

Height:	5 x 3m (up to 20m)
Description:	Moderate growth rate Deciduous Plant in small clumps Prefers mild climate
Soil Types:	Tolerates poor drainage Prefers lime free soils Not dry soils
Fruit:	1cm dark blue ovoid fruit
Timing of fruit:	February - April 10 years to fruit
Benefits to Wildlife:	Food for ducks



Swamp Maple *Acer rubrum*

Also known as Red maple

Height:	10 x 5m (up to 15m)
Description:	Smaller maple Red foliage in autumn Deciduous Tolerates drought and wet conditions
Soil Types:	Tolerates drought and wet conditions
Fruit:	Winged seeds at approximately 60° angle Bright red fruit
Timing of fruit:	March - May 15 years to fruit
Benefits to Wildlife:	Food for waterfowl and upland game



