Follow-up maintenance

- Maintain a weed-free planting spot for two years. Hand-grub or spray with glyphosate around shielded plants as necessary.

- If hare or rabbit damage occurs, apply a repellent. You can make your own by mixing 5 fresh eggs with 150 ml of acrylic white paint and 600 ml water.

The natural regeneration option

Remember that planting may be unnecessary. When grazing and fire are absent and a seed source is nearby, natural regeneration of native plants will succeed dense gorse, broom and bracken.

The natural regeneration of shade-tolerant native forest species under 15-19 year old gorse following the removal of grazing animals.

A suggested shelter design using natives

Two curved lines of hardy native plants can provide efficient stock shelter, wildlife habitat and improved farm landscape.

**STEP 1 (6 plants per 20m)**
- Establish the ‘backbone’ plants at 1.8m spacing along a curved line, e.g., Pittosporum tenuifolium, Coprosma robusta.

**STEP 2 (8 plants per 20m)**
- Repeat the operation along an imaginary opposite line, e.g., Olearia paniculata, Griselinia littoralis.

**STEP 3 (6 plants per 20m)**
- Add a random mix of supplementary species as shown.

Shade tolerant: Podocarpus totara, Pittosporum tenuifolium.

Light preferring: Coprosma repens, Cabbage Tree, Hoheria angustifolia, Pseudopanax arboreus, Podocarpus totara.
Native plants in Canterbury

Native plants are part of our unique natural heritage and regional identity. They have adapted to grow on a wide variety of sites, and require little maintenance.

Native plants are useful for:
- Preventing erosion and stabilizing land
- Restoring native remnants and developing new diverse habitats
- Recreating Canterbury's unique landscapes
- Providing shelter from winds

This pamphlet shows you how to select and successfully establish native plants for Canterbury conditions.

Selecting suitable species

Find a site and match the most suitable species to the site.

Remember that native plant communities develop naturally through succession. Pioneer species create favourable conditions for later species. Non-pioneers such as beech, kahikatea, totara and rimu can be planted several years after the initial planting.

Obtaining plants

Use healthy plants grown by nurseries in containers or root trainers rather than transplanting wild seedlings. Don't accept pot bound stock.

To retain genetic purity of your district's native vegetation ask for plants that are propagated from local sources.

Keep plants covered and cool during transport.

Native plants suitable for Canterbury conditions

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<tr>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Botanical name</th>
<th>Coastal Sites</th>
<th>Frost-hardened</th>
<th>Soil</th>
<th>Histology</th>
<th>Weed competition</th>
<th>Root spread</th>
<th>Site habitat or shelter</th>
<th>Water availability</th>
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<td>Aloe arborescens</td>
<td>To retain genetic purity of your district's native plants for Canterbury conditions.</td>
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Preparing the site

Weed competition can be reduced by spraying metre square spots of glyphosate several weeks before planting. Hand grubbing is an alternative to spraying.

Native plants enjoy cultivated sites. Where it is practical, deeply cultivate with a tractor and wing tined ripper.

Establishing trees

Frost hardening

Where practical, mulch the area planted with a 6cm layer of coarse bark chips, stones or a thick layer of newspaper. This conserves moisture, reduces weed growth and controls soil temperatures.

Key

- Sites, roadsides, shelter belts

- Poorly drained (S), or

- Wet (S), or

- Wetland (S), or

- Sheltered (S), or

- Open (E)

- Roadside

- Medium fertility or

- Low fertility or

- Acidic Sites

- Frosty or

- Cool or

- Poorly drained

- Native plants enjoy cultivated sites. Where it is practical, deeply cultivate with a tractor and wing tined ripper.

- Where practical, mulch the area planted with a 6cm layer of coarse bark chips, stones or a thick layer of newspaper. This conserves moisture, reduces weed growth and controls soil temperatures.

- Keeping a diary like the example overleaf will help your project be a success.