

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox*)



C. Lewis

Robust, evergreen, clump-forming perennial to 60 centimetres tall, with up to 20 wide leathery leaves on each shoot. Light blue or white flowers forming umbrella-shaped clusters are followed by seed spread by wind and water; it is also spread by the long, thick, underground stem system. Forms dense mats that exclude native species, and seedlings easily outcompete young native plants in warm, dry places.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)
Mikoikoi (*Libertia ixiodes*)

Turf lily (*Liriope muscari*)



C. Lewis

Also consider:
Day lily (*Hemerocallis* species, except *H. fulva*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Pampas (*Cortaderia selloana* & *C. jubata*)



C.Lewis

Large perennial clump-forming grass to 5 metres tall with large, upright, fluffy flowers. Leaves are narrow and sharp-edged. Flowers of *Cortaderia selloana* are white, while those of *Cortaderia jubata* have a purple tinge. Invades natural areas, suppressing native plants, harbouring animal pests and creating a fire risk.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Toetoe (*Cortaderia richardii*)



www.cfgphoto.com



Also consider:
Red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)

Snow tussock (*Chionochloa flavescens*)



www.cfgphoto.com



Also consider:
Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)

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Montbretia (*Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora*)



C.Lewis

Evergreen or summer-green clump-forming perennial with bright green, sword-shaped leaves. Orange-red flowers are followed by seed capsules and also spreads by underground corms. Invades natural areas crowding out native species, and the masses of spreading corms in the soil can contribute to erosion, siltation, and the breakdown of stream banks.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Turutu (*Dianella nigra*)



R.Morris, DOC



Also consider:
Maori onion (*Bulbinella hookeri*)
Rengarenga (*Arthropodium cirratum*)

Hemerocallis 'Amber glow'



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Also consider:
Oxblood lily (*Hippeastrum advenum*)
Crown Imperial (*Fritillaria imperialis*)

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*)



Strongly tufted fern on a short erect "trunk" with numerous fronds that often die down over winter. Dull green fronds are paler underneath, have toothed margins, and stalks sparsely covered in pale brown scales.

Invades native forest, shrubland and alpine zone, displacing native ferns, and is capable of surviving in dry habitats.

J. Barkla

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Punui (*Polystichum vestitum*)



Department of Conservation



Also consider:
Mouku (*Asplenium bulbiferum*)

Piupiu (*Blechnum discolor*)



www.cifphoto.com



Also consider:
Pukupuku (*Doodia australis*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Velt grass (*Ehrharta erecta*)



B. Stanley / T. James (inset)

Weakly tufted grass up to 1 metre tall with soft, flat, smooth and hairless bright green leaves often with red-purple bases. Fine flowerheads have a weak main stem with branches on one side. Forms extensive colonies in forest margins and in semi-shade, smothering native ground plants and preventing regeneration of native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)



K. Broome



Also consider:
Hunangamoho (*Anemanthele lessoniana*)

Pukio (*Carex secta*)



K. Broome



Also consider:
Carex comans 'frosted curls'.

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Grasses,
bulbs and ferns

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Mexican feather grass (*Nassella tenuissima*)



C.Lewis

Also known as fine-stemmed needle grass. Densely tufted perennial tussock grass growing to 70 centimetres with fibrous roots and smooth, round, hairless stems with lower sections in a leaf-like sheath. Leaves are numerous and tightly rolled. Flowerheads often only partially emerge from the enclosing sheath. Hardy and drought tolerant, capable of invading pasture and open sites to crowd out native species. *Nassella* tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) is also a serious weed

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Carex comans 'frosted curls'



www.cfpphoto.com



Also consider:
Hunangamoho (*Anemanthele lessoniana*)
Pukio (*Carex secta*)

Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C.Lewis



Also consider:
Snow tussock (*Chionochloa flavescens*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Tuber ladder fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*)



C. Lewis

Shade tolerant perennial fern with upright, ladder-like green fronds growing from a dense, wiry root system that produces numerous hairy brown tubers, each capable of forming a new plant. Forms dense colonies that crowd out and replace low growing native plants.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Piu piu (*Blechnum discolor*)



B. Smith, DOC



Also consider:
Pukupuku (*Doodia australis*)

Puniu (*Polystichum vestitum*)



K. Broome



Also consider:
Mouku (*Asplenium bilbiferum*)

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Kikuyu grass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*)



C.Lewis

Hairy perennial grass with long underground stems, and very long creeping stems that root frequently. Soft, drooping, bright green to yellow-green leaves. Spread by tiny fragments and sometimes by seed. Grows rapidly, and scrambles over or creeps under most plants, forming mats that smother all other low growing native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Pukio (*Carex secta*)



K.Broome



Also consider:
Meadow rice grass (*Microlaena stipoides*)

Carex comans 'frosted curls'



www.cjphoto.com



Also consider:
Other *Carex* species

GARDEN ESCAPEE



Fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*)



B. Stanley / Department of Conservation (inset)

Tufted perennial grass to 1 metre tall forming dense unpalatable mats. Showy reddish-purple, bristly flower spikes develop wind-spread seeds that can also be carried on clothing and on animal pelts. Potential problem in dry open forest and grassland where it crowds out native species.

PLANT ME INSTEAD...

Pepepe (*Machaerina sinclairii*)



C. Lewis



Also consider:
Red tussock (*Chionochloa rubra*)

Toetoe (*Cortaderia richardii*)



www.cigphoto.com



Also consider:
Snow tussock (*Chionochloa flavescens*)