

## Planting for Slope Stability in Nelson / Tasman

This guide highlights several native species ideal for stabilising terrain in the Nelson and Tasman districts.

### 1. Mānuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*)



- **Size:** 4–5m Height × 2–3m Width.
- **Roots:** Fine, extensive, and dense; excellent for surface soil binding.
- **Conditions:** Thrives in both wet and dry soil. Very hardy.
- **Sun:** Prefers full sun.
- **Benefits:** Crucial for bees and insects; provides a nursery for other natives.

### 2. Kōwhai (*Sophora microphylla*)



- **Size:** 5–8m Height × 3–4m Width.
- **Roots:** Deep and robust; ideal for anchoring deeper soil layers.
- **Conditions:** Prefers well-drained, slightly moist soil but tolerates dry periods.
- **Sun:** Full sun to partial shade.
- **Benefits:** A magnet for Tui and Bellbirds due to its nectar-rich yellow flowers.

### 3. Akeake (*Dodonaea viscosa*)



- **Size:** 4–6m Height × 3m Width.
- **Roots:** Deep-reaching and very strong; highly effective on steep, exposed banks.
- **Conditions:** Prefers dry, well-drained soil. Extremely wind-tolerant.
- **Sun:** Full sun.
- **Benefits:** Dense foliage provides excellent shelter for smaller birds.



#### 4. Five-Finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*)



- **Size:** 5m Height × 3m Width.
- **Roots:** Fast-growing and spreading; provides quick stabilisation.
- **Conditions:** Adaptable but prefers moist, well-drained soil.
- **Sun:** Full sun to partial shade.
- **Benefits:** High bird appeal; its fruit is a major food source for Kererū.

#### 5. Karo (*Pittosporum crassifolium*)



- **Size:** 5m Height × 3m Width.
- **Roots:** Tough and extensive; specifically adapted for coastal erosion.
- **Conditions:** Extremely drought-tolerant and handles salt spray with ease.
- **Sun:** Full sun to partial shade.
- **Benefits:** Scented flowers attract nocturnal insects and birds.

#### 6. Wharangi (*Melicope ternata*)



- **Size:** 3–5m Height × 2–3m Width.
- **Roots:** Moderate to extensive; good for filling gaps in restoration planting.
- **Conditions:** Prefers coastal, well-drained, and slightly drier sites.
- **Sun:** Full sun to partial shade.
- **Benefits:** Attractive glossy foliage that provides cover for lizards and insects.

## 7. Lemonwood (*Pittosporum eugenioides*)



- **Size:** 5–8m Height × 3–4m Width.
- **Roots:** Wide-spreading and vigorous; great for covering large areas quickly.
- **Conditions:** Prefers moist, well-drained soil but is quite adaptable.
- **Sun:** Full sun to partial shade.
- **Benefits:** Prolific flowers attract a wide range of native bees and butterflies.