



Black and mountain beech/tawhairauriki dominate the canopy of the foothills forest. Red beech/tawhairaunui is uncommon, and is found only in the Mt Grey area.

In moist gullies occasional rimu, kahikatea or mataī tower above the beech canopy. The odd southern rata is found on bluffs and rock outcrops, especially in Alford Forest.

Black beech is the main forest tree on the drier lower slopes. Understorey plants, climbers and shrubs fill gaps left by wind and snow-break.

Foothills forests native plants

Grown from seed collected from native remnants in the Oxford area.

Beech/tawhai is the most common native forest in the Canterbury foothills. Black beech/tawhairauriki (*Nothofagus solandri*) dominates the lower slopes, while mountain beech/tawhairauriki (*Nothofagus solandri* var *cliffortioides*) is more prevalent at higher altitudes and on the more exposed harsh sites. Red beech/tawhairaunui (*Nothofagus fusca*) is also present, but is uncommon and found only in the Mt Grey area.

Podocarp species, such as kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*), mataī (*Prumnopitys taxifolia*), and rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*) are also present on the poorly drained lower slopes and moist gullies where they mix with beech. The understorey is diverse, and consists of a wide range of shrubs, herbaceous plants and fern species. The more common shrubs include species of Coprosma/karamū, lancewood/horoeka, broadleaf/kāpuka (*Griselinia littoralis*), putaputāwētā (*Carpodetus serratus*), wineberry/makomako (*Aristotelia serrata*), and other Pseudopanax species.

Regenerating forest is also a feature of the Canterbury foothills flora and is represented by broadleaf, kōwhai (*Sophora microphylla*), small-leaved Coprosma species, mountain wineberry (*Aristotelia fruticosa*), mānuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*), and kānuka (*Kunzea ericoides*).

Southern rata (*Metrosideros umbellata*) is found sporadically, growing on bluffs and rock outcrops, especially in the Alford Forest.



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

R = rare

T = threatened

- 1 *Aristotelia serrata* makomako, wineberry
- 2 *Astelia fragrans* kakaha, bush lily
- 3 *Carex buchananii* matirewa, cutty grass
- 4 *Carex dispacea*
- 5 *Carex tenuiculmis* (R)
- 6 *Carmichaelia torulosa* (R)
- 7 *Carpodetus serratus*
putaputāwētā, marble leaf
- 8 *Clematis paniculata*
- 9 *Coprosma 'Taylorii'*
- 10 *Coprosma linariifolia* yellow-wood
- 11 *Coprosma lucida*
- 12 *Coprosma propinqua* mingimingi
- 13 *Coprosma rhamnoides*
- 14 *Coprosma robusta* karamū
- 15 *Coprosma rotundifolia*
- 16 *Coprosma virescens*
- 17 *Cordyline australis* ti kōuka, cabbage tree
- 18 *Dacrydium cupressium* rimu
- 19 *Elaeocarpus hookerianus* pōkākā
- 20 *Griselinia littoralis* pāpāuma, broadleaf
- 21 *Hebe salicifolia* koromiko
- 22 *Hebe traversii*
- 23 *Hoheria lyallii* houhi, mountain ribbonwood
- 24 *Melicope simplex* poataniwha
- 25 *Melicytus flexuosus*

- 26 *Metrosideros umbellata*
southern rātā, ironwood
- 27 *Myrsine australis* matipou, māpou,
- 28 *Myrsine divaricata* weeping māpou
- 29 *Nothofagus fusca* tawhairaunui, red beech
- 30 *Nothofagus solandri*
tawhairauriki, black beech
- 31 *Nothofagus solandri var cliffortioides*
tawhairauriki, mountain beech
- 32 *Olearia avicenniaefolia* akeake
- 33 *Phormium cookianum*
wharariki, mountain flax
- 34 *Pittosporum eugenioides* tarata, lemonwood
- 35 *Pittosporum tenuifolium* kōhūhu
- 36 *Plagianthus regius* mānatu, ribbonwood
- 37 *Podocarpus hallii* mountain tōtara
- 38 *Prumnopitys ferruginea* miro
- 39 *Prumnopitys taxifolia* mataī, black pine
- 40 *Pseudopanax arboreus*
whauwhaupaku, five finger
- 41 *Pseudopanax colensoi*
orihou, mountain five finger
- 42 *Pseudopanax crassifolius*
horoeka, lancewood
- 43 *Raukaua anomalus*
- 44 *Sophora microphylla* kōwhai
- 45 *Uncinia rubra*
- 46 *Zotovia avenacea*