

BRIGHTEN YOUR PROJECT with NATIVE FLOWERING TREES!

Flowering trees bring wonder and pleasure to their viewers. They bring birds, creating vibrant landscapes, and they turn good environments into exquisite ones over the flowering period. Let's have a look at two of our classic New Zealand blooming trees, Pohutukawa, and Kowhai.

Classic trees, like classic music and fashion, engender feelings of comfort and familiarity, a sense of security.

Pohutukawa



Pohutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*)

Our classic New Zealand icon, the Pohutukawa, blooms rich red in December across its spreading canopy. Realising fast growth to 5 metres by 10 years, it achieves a maximum of 15 metres. This hardy favourite, which yields dense timber, hugs the coastline. It tolerates wind, sporadic drought, and nutrient-lacking soils. Originally found north of a line between Gisborne and Taranaki, its popularity has now seen it planted NZ wide.



Pohutukawa Maori Princess (*Metrosideros excelsa*)

The Pohutukawa selection Maori Princess produces extraordinarily vibrant red flowers, every season, and lots of them. Though upright in form, it is less vigorous than straight excelsa. This gorgeous tree sprints to 5 metres in height by 10 years, growing to a maximum 10 metres. Like its parent, Maori Princess is hardy, tolerating wind, drought, and poor soils. Originally a New Plymouth selection, it blooms lush crimson in December.



Pohutukawa Mistral (*Metrosideros excelsa x robusta*)

The Mistral Pohutukawa is a Great Barrier Island selection, a natural hybrid between Pohutukawa Excelsa and Rata. Erect and elegant in form, Mistral develops a darker green attractive canopy, with deep red branchlets. In mid-December it produces a lavish display of deep scarlet flowers with an abundance of nectar that attracts Tui and Bellbirds. It achieves 5 metres height within 10 years to a maximum of 10 metres. Like the other Pohutukawa, Mistral is a coast lover, and hardy, tolerating wind, salt, drought, and leached soils.

Kowhai



Kowhai Tetrapera (*Sophora tetraptera*)

The North Island Kowhai Tetrapera has a graceful spreading form with larger, widely-spaced leaves. It grows to 4 metres by 10 years, to a maximum height of 12 metres. Enjoying both coastal and riparian environments, this produces abundant brilliant yellow flowers followed by seed pods from August to November, attracting Tui and other nectar-eating birds.



Kowhai Microphylla (*Sophora microphylla*)

Kowhai Microphylla is the main South Island species of Kowhai. With a graceful, almost weeping, spread form it has a smaller fern-like leaf than S Tetrapera. It grows to 4 metres within 10 years, to a maximum height of 8 metres. Hardy, and thriving in both coastal and riparian environments, Microphylla is found NZ-wide. Bright yellow flowers are followed by seed pods from spring, when native birds arrive to partake of the nectar feast. This variety often has a particularly divaricated juvenile form.



Kowhai Chathamica (*Sophora chathamica*)

Kowhai Chathamica has an elegant upright form. Its green lush foliage is the result of this variety's densely packed small leaves. It attains a height of 4 metres within 10 years, to a maximum of 15m. Like other Kowhai varieties, it's hardy and does well in coastal or riparian situations. It is found mainly from Wellington, north to upper Waikato, Auckland, the eastern Hauraki Gulf, and Chatham Islands. Chathamica tends to blossom with bright golden flowers before other varieties, providing early feed for native birds.



Kowhai Fulvida (*Sophora fulvida*)

Kowhai Fulvida has a spreading, lyrical form with larger bright yellow drooping blossoms which appear in late spring. Achieving a height of 4 metres within 10 years, Fulvida grows to a maximum of 8 metres. This beautiful native with its tight and small leaf pattern is happy in both coastal and riparian environments and is found in Raglan, and then Waitakere to Whangarei only.

Kowhai and Pohutukawa are two of many flowering native tree varieties we grow to BIG-tree stage for you at takana native trees. With more than 100 native tree varieties, you'll understand that we're actually a little bit crazy about New Zealand's native trees. Take advantage - we're always happy to help with some free expert advice. See us, and the trees, at 102 Omaha Flats Road, Matakana, or call us on **0800 TAKANA**, or email: don@takana.co.nz