

Moutere Willow (NZ1184 *Salix matsudana* x *alba*)

Main Points

- Very fast growth
- Better than other willows on exposed sites
- Smooth bark for 3-5 years
- Good for shelter belts
- Possum palatable
- Not drought tolerant
- Has a narrow crown

Description

The growth rate of Moutere is very fast and similar to other hybrid willows. The crown is quite dense and reasonably narrow and leaves are retained until early June. The smooth bark roughens after 4-5 years. Poles should be protected from cattle damage until the rough bark has developed.



Site tolerances

Moutere has been the most successful clone on very windy sites, but it needs moisture during summer.

Uses

- Soil conservation - Recommended for general soil conservation use on both hill slopes and in gullies. Also suitable for river control.
- Shelter - one of the two best hybrid willows - with Tangoio - for horticultural and farm shelter belts. The advantage of this clone is its narrow crown.
- Fodder - similar fodder uses to other willows.

Establishment

As with other willows, Moutere is easy to grow from poles and cuttings.

Management

No special management needed, but trees planted for soil conservation may benefit from pruning all but a single main leader after 2-3 years' growth.

Pests and diseases

Lemon Tree Borer often attacks this clone but without serious effects. Late spring flights of grass grub and manuka beetle can severely defoliate isolated trees, but they usually recover quickly.

For further information:

For information on planting poplars or willows, ask us for other Environment Topics in this series or contact Land Management Officers at Hawke's Bay Regional Council for advice.

Wairoa	06 838 8527
Guppy Road, Napier	06 844 2495
Waipukurau	06 858 8636
TOLL FREE	0800 108 838
Email	info@hbrc.govt.nz
Website	www.hbrc.govt.nz