

LAND MANAGEMENT

CONSERVATION TREES

*Kawa poplar (NZ 5006 *Populus deltoides x yunnanensis*)*

Main Points

- vigorous growth
- good form
- brittle branches in strong wind
- some possum resistance recommended
- timber clone
- attractive foliage

Description

Faster growing and better formed (upright) tree than 'Yunnanensis', but almost as attractive. Moderately brittle branchlets. The leaves flush greenish-bronze in late September and are retained late into the season, similar to 'Yunnanensis'. Mature height is probably 30-35 metres.

Site tolerances

'Kawa' has established well on relatively hard sites in areas with good summer rainfall, however long term growth is uncertain. Hard sites which are also exposed to strong winds should be avoided. 'Kawa' has established on low fertility soils and at relatively high altitudes (600 - 800 metres) in the Hawke's Bay.

Uses

- Soil conservation - This clone is presently the most successful of the recently available poplars in Hawke's

Bay. It is suitable for open, gully and river control planting.

- Timber - it is currently one of the recommended clones for timber production, however, testing of timber qualities has not been completed.

Establishment

Easily established from poles and cuttings. However, it is important to plant cuttings with buds for strong growth. Cuttings require good moisture and weed control.

Management

'Kawa' produces heavy branches similar to 'Yunnanensis' and may benefit from pruning to one main leader after 2-3 years' growth.

Pests and diseases

'Kawa' is resistant to the main poplar diseases in New Zealand and is one of the least palatable poplar clones to possums.

For further information

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

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