

# What's a Weed?

A weed is a plant that causes problems - whether it's in your garden, your farm, your favourite holiday spot, a wetland or native bush.

In New Zealand, 75% of weeds that have invaded natural areas are garden plants that have “jumped the fence”.

- **Gunnera** is considered a fashionable landscaping feature but there is nothing classy about the way it's threatening endangered plants and wildlife on the Taranaki cliffs.
- **Mexican daisy** looks pretty in the garden but is a terrible troublemaker invading stream banks and coastal areas.



If a plant seeds freely or spreads rapidly in your garden, it can easily become a serious pest, threatening the survival of our native plants and wildlife. It's no accident that the weediest places are closest to urban area.

Take a careful look at what's  
growing in your garden!

