



## Default Question Block



Aotearoa  
BiodiverCity

## How Green is Your Garden?

We want to learn about people's awareness of native biodiversity when making changes to their garden or outdoor space. You do not need to own your property in order to take part.

**We would very much appreciate it if you could find the time to fill out this survey.**

You'll have the opportunity to enter a draw for four \$50 supermarket vouchers if you complete the survey.

This research has been approved by the Otago University Human Ethics Committee (Project 24/0656). However, if you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of the research you may contact the University of Otago Human Ethics Committee Te Pae Matatika Tangata, Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka through the Human Ethics Committee Administrator (ph +643 479

8256 or email [humanethics@otago.ac.nz](mailto:humanethics@otago.ac.nz)). Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated and you will be informed of the outcome. The information you provide here is confidential, and there will be no personal identification information in any of the outputs we will create.

You may withdraw from participation in the project at any time and without any disadvantage to yourself of any kind. If you have any questions about our project, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact either Jacqueline Theis ([jacqueline.theis@postgrad.otago.ac.nz](mailto:jacqueline.theis@postgrad.otago.ac.nz) or Professor Yolanda van Heezik ([yolanda.vanheezik@otago.ac.nz](mailto:yolanda.vanheezik@otago.ac.nz)).

The survey is divided into three parts: the first is collecting some information about you, the second is about your garden, and the third is on how you feel about nature in general. It should take you about 10 - 15 minutes.

By continuing with the survey you are consenting to participate in this project.

## 1. Householder details

These questions help us get a sense of you and your living situation.

1.1. Name

1.2. Email

1.3. What year were you born?

### 1.5. What is your highest education qualification?

- ☐ Year 8 or below
- ☐ Year 9 – 13
- ☐ Trade certificate
- ☐ Bachelor degree
- ☐ Graduate diploma
- ☐ Post-graduate degree
- ☐  Other (please specify below)

### 1.6. How well does your total income meet your everyday needs?

- ☐ It comfortably meets my needs
- ☐ It is only just enough
- ☐ It is not enough

### 1.7. What's your address?

1.8. How many years have you been living at this address?

1.9. How many years have you been living in New Zealand/Aotearoa?

## 2. Your Garden

2.1. In the last four years (2021-2024) have you made changes to your garden or the management of your garden that might positively impact biodiversity?

☐ yes

☐ no

2.2. Please tick any changes you made to your garden or its management for the benefit of biodiversity in about the last four years

- ☐ I planted 1 or 2 native grasses and shrubs
- ☐ I planted three or more native grasses and shrubs
- ☐ I planted 1 or 2 native trees
- ☐ I planted 3 or more native trees
- ☐ I started letting my lawn grow longer before I mow it to allow flowers to bloom
- ☐ I started leaving wood to rot on the ground to encourage insects
- ☐ I reduced my use of pesticides
- ☐ I began keeping my cat/s inside at night
- ☐ I began keeping my cat/s inside all the time
- ☐ I started controlling pest animals on my property
- ☐ I created habitat for native species to use (e.g., insect hotel, lizard habitat)
- ☐ I planted plants to support pollinators
- ☐ I planted non-native plants (please describe what type below; i.e. flowers, shrubs, trees, vegetables)

- ☐ Other - please list below

2.3. Why did you decide to make changes to increase biodiversity in your garden? Tick all that apply.

- ☐ I have a personal interest in biodiversity
- ☐ I was motivated by information I've read (newspapers, magazines, newsletters, books etc)
- ☐ Conversations with friends and/or family motivated me to make changes
- ☐ I was motivated by content I watched on TV or online, or heard on the radio
- ☐ Community initiatives to improve biodiversity in my neighbourhood motivated me
- ☐ Other

2.4. If you made changes to benefit biodiversity, were there any downsides to the changes you made to your garden?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes – please elaborate in box below

2.5. Did you talk about the changes you made to anyone else?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Maybe (can't recall)
- ☐ Yes. If so, do you know whether you influenced their gardening? Please explain below.

2.6. Is there any particular reason why you didn't make any changes in your garden for biodiversity? Tick all that apply.

- ☐ I am happy with how my garden is
- ☐ I don't want more biodiversity
- ☐ I don't have enough information on what changes to make
- ☐ I don't have enough space
- ☐ It costs too much
- ☐ Native plants don't appeal to me
- ☐ I have other priorities
- ☐ I don't have enough time to make a change
- ☐ Other - please use field below

2.7. Looking forward, are there any changes you intend to make in the future?

### 3. Your relationship with nature

In this section we would like to find out more about your relationship with nature, and how that might influence what you do in your garden.

For each of the following, please rate the extent to which you agree with each statement, using the scale from 1 to 5 as shown below. Please respond as you really feel, rather than how you think “most people” feel.

My ideal vacation spot would be a remote, wilderness area

|                       |                       |                               |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Disagree<br>strongly  | Disagree a little     | Neither agree<br>nor disagree | Agree a little        | Agree strongly        |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>         | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

I always think about how my actions affect the environment

Disagree strongly    Disagree a little    Neither agree nor disagree    Agree a little    Agree strongly

☐    ☐    ☐    ☐    ☐

My connection to nature and the environment is a part of my spirituality

Disagree strongly    Disagree a little    Neither agree nor disagree    Agree a little    Agree strongly

☐    ☐    ☐    ☐    ☐

I take notice of wildlife wherever I am

Disagree strongly    Disagree a little    Neither agree nor disagree    Agree a little    Agree strongly

☐    ☐    ☐    ☐    ☐

My relationship to nature is an important part of who I am

Disagree strongly    Disagree a little    Neither agree nor disagree    Agree a little    Agree strongly

☐    ☐    ☐    ☐    ☐

I feel very connected to all living things and the earth

Disagree  
strongly

Disagree a little

Neither agree  
nor disagree

Agree a little

Agree strongly



3.2. How often do you think about biodiversity when deciding how to manage your garden?

- ☐ not at all
- ☐ it rarely contributes to decisions I make in my garden
- ☐ it sometimes contributes to decisions I make in my garden
- ☐ it frequently contributes to decisions I make in my garden
- ☐ it is the primary driver of how I manage my garden

3.3. Do you belong to any environmental initiative/organised activity? If yes, which initiative/organised activity, and what is your role?

3.4. Do you seek information on gardening for native biodiversity?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.5. What sources do you use to find information on gardening for native biodiversity? Tick all that apply.

☐ I don't seek this type of information

☐ educational courses (i.e. Polytechnic or University courses)

☐ garden centres

☐ nurseries

☐ online resources

☐ friends and family

☐ books & magazines

☐ other (please enter in field below)

3.6. To finish off, we are interested in your knowledge of the following birds. Please write the name of each bird

and indicate whether it is native or exotic/non-native.



Image © Rob Lynch

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? please write in the box below.



Image © Craig McKenzie

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Rob Lynch

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Ormond Torr

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Ormond Torr

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Ormond Torr

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Tony Whitehead

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Oscar Thomas

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Craig McKenzie

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.



Image © Rob Lynch

- ☐ Native?
- ☐ Exotic/non-native?
- ☐ Name? Please write in the box below.

This last box is for any further comments you'd like to make.

Enter your email below if you would like to go in the draw for one of four \$50 supermarket vouchers.

Click [here](#) for the answers to the bird survey!

Please click on the back arrow in your browser to return to the survey!

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