

## Department of Botany Seminar

### Steffi Storz

PhD candidate, Department of Botany

## Managing Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) in New Zealand: Evaluating Control Strategies and Ecological Impacts.



Sycamore is an invasive tree species in New Zealand, posing significant ecological challenges due to its rapid spread and potential impact on native vegetation. My PhD research investigates various aspects of sycamore ecology and control measures to inform effective and sustainable management strategies. This study includes a literature review on sycamore's ecological characteristics and global invasiveness, as well as an additional review on the impact of herbicides used for sycamore control on

non-target species. Furthermore, it comprises a survey of existing control practices in New Zealand and field experiments assessing the effectiveness of different management strategies at the Remarkables Station and other locations. The research also involves seed bank studies, dispersal mapping using drone imagery and GIS analysis, and bioassays to examine the interactions between sycamore-associated mycorrhizal fungi and native species regeneration.

The overall goal is to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical and physical control methods while understanding their broader ecological impacts. The findings will contribute to evidence-based recommendations for sycamore management in New Zealand's ecosystems.

**Wednesday 12 March 2025, 12:00 noon**

**Venue: Otago Business School, Seminar Room LG.05**

**Or you can join via the Zoom link below:**

<https://otago.zoom.us/j/94239463064?pwd=d051YWFwdVB1bi9FSzBjYzkwNWJBUT09>

**Password: 807740**