

Giant Knotweed

(Fallopia sachalinensis)



Habitat: Terrestrial

Family name: Polygonaceae

Description:

Giant knotweed is native to north-eastern Asia in northern Japan (*Hokkaidō, Honshū*) and the far east of Russia (*Sakhalin and the southern Kurile Islands*)

Herbaceous perennial plant growing to 2–4 m tall, with strong, extensively spreading rhizomes forming large clonal colonies.

Giant knotweed is closely related to Japanese knotweed - (*Fallopia japonica*).

Flowers are small, produced on short, dense panicles up to 10 cm long in late summer or early autumn.

Giant knotweed is gynodioecious, with male and female (*male sterile*) flowers on separate plants.



Winter months:

In late autumn, brown, brittle dead stems mark where Giant knotweed locations exist



Roots and Rhizome:

Giant knotweed Roots are orange in colour.

The can grow up to 3 metres deep and up to 7 metres from the surface crown

A new Giant knotweed plant can grow from a fragment of rhizome the size of a fingernail



Stem: Hollow, mostly green with red banding.



Knotweed Leaf Identification

Leaves are a deep or bright green colour with a mat / dull appearance.

They elongated heart shaped, deeply lobed, sharply pointed with a smooth slightly wavy edge.

15–40 cm long and 10–28 cm wide in an alternate zig-zag pattern on the stem.



Giant Knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*) Leaf



Bohemian Knotweed (*Fallopia × bohemica*) Leaf



Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) Leaf

