

GIANT HOGWEED

Heraclium Mantegezianum

NATIVE RANGE

Caucasus Mountains – Southern Russia and Georgia.

CURRENT HABITAT

Widespread throughout the region particularly common on river banks.

SPECIES DESCRIPTION

Large biennial plant that may take up to four years to flower. First introduced to the UK in the late nineteenth century as an ornamental plant. Due to the plants ability to produce vast amounts of seed it has now spread throughout the country resulting in a loss of biodiversity where established due to the suppressing of native vegetation.



HAZARD TO HEALTH



Contact with any part of this plant must be avoided as even minute amounts of sap will result in severe blistering. The stems and leaves are both covered in small hairs and even the slightest contact with these will result in skin irritation. Blistering symptoms will occur between twelve and forty eight hours after exposure, further irritation could occur when skin is exposed to sunlight.

Protective Clothing must be worn when coming into contact with this plant.

IDENTIFICATION FEATURES

STEMS

Hollow up to 5m long with green, red or purple blotches with fine sharp bristles up to 100mm in diameter.



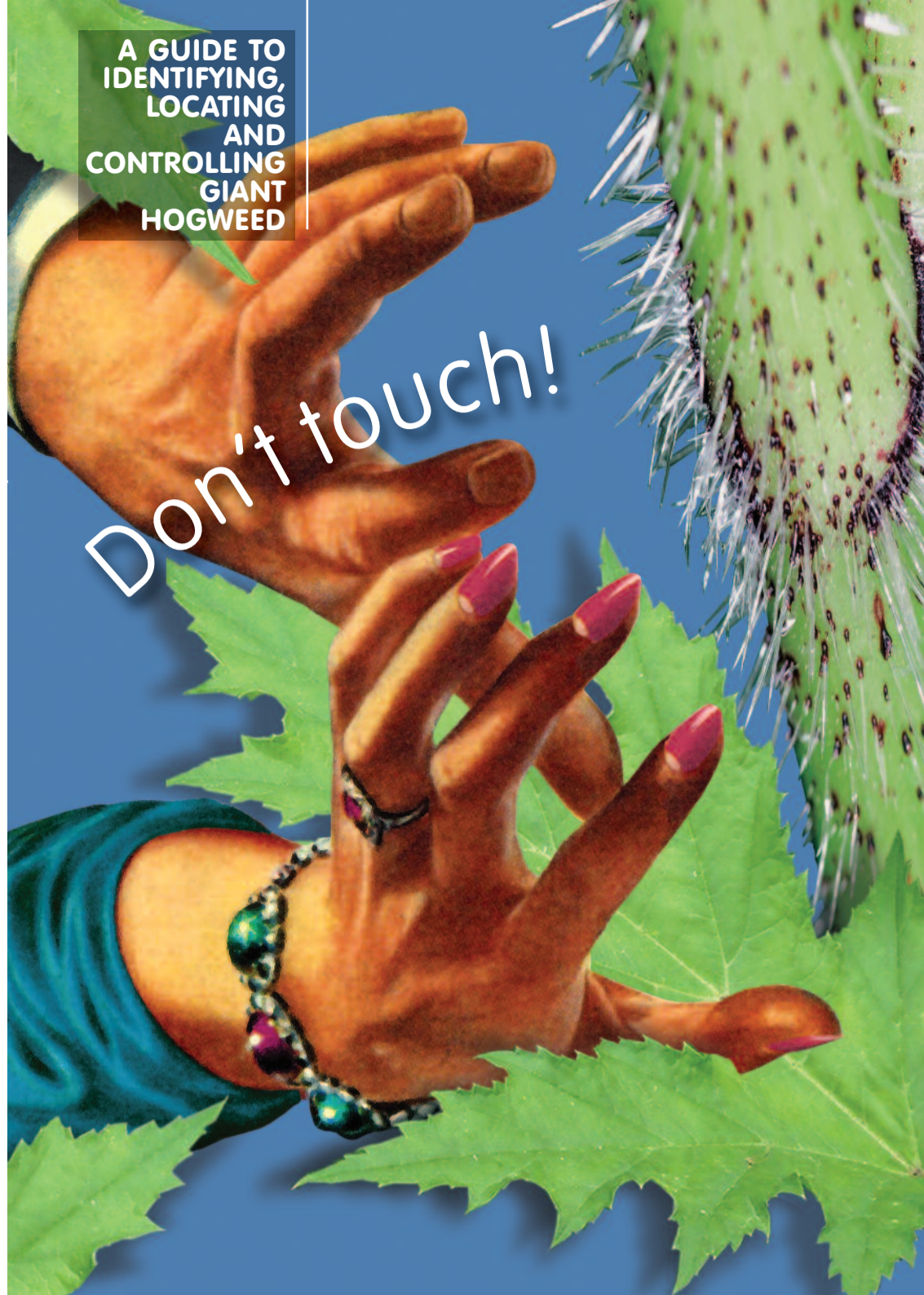
LEAVES

Dark green in rosette with a jagged or serrated appearance, fine bristles on underside up to 2m across and 1.5m long.



A GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING, LOCATING AND CONTROLLING GIANT HOGWEED

Don't touch!



FLOWERS

Produced in mid summer, white in colour several hundred together in in large umbrella like flower heads upto 850mm across.



SEEDS

Each plant is capable of producing upto 80,000 seeds approx 10mm x 7mm in size. These are dispersed easily by water or wind and may remain viable for up to 15 years.

CONTROLS

The aim of all forms of control is to prevent the plant flowering and setting seed.

MECHANICAL CONTROL

Cutting stems with a sharp hook or scythe to prevent flowering will aid control, strimming should be avoided to prevent contamination with sap.

Plants at biennial stage can be removed with a fork or spade provided care is taken not to come into contact with the sap.

CHEMICAL CONTROL

Spraying is very effective, plants can be treated with Glyphosate once active growth has resumed usually from March onwards. Due to the large numbers of viable seed annual treatment and monitoring will be necessary for a number of years to prevent reinfestation.

If herbicides are to be used on or near a watercourse then prior approval will need to be sought from the Environment Agency.

LEGISLATION

It is an offence under the wildlife and countryside act 1981 to plant or cause to grow wild any plant listed in shedule nine part two of the act. Giant Hogweed is included in this list.

CONTACT

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CYNEFIN BRODOROL

Mynyddoedd y Cawcasws - De Rwsia a Georgia

CYNEFIN PRESENNOL

I'w gael yn eang drwy'r rhanbarth, ac mae'n arbennig o gyffredin ar lannau afonydd.

DISGRIFIAD O'R RHYWOGAETH

Planhigyn mawr eifflwydd a all gymryd hyd at bedair blynedd i flodeuo. Fe'i cyflwynwyd yn gyntaf i'r DU ar ddiwedd y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg fel planhigyn addurnol. Gan fod y planhigyn yn gallu cynhyrchu llawer iawn o hadau mae bellach wedi ymledu drwy'r wlad, gan arwain at golli bioamrywiaeth lle mae wedi ymsefydlu, am ei fod yn atal llystyfiant brodorol.



PERYGLUS I IECHYD



Dylid osgoi unrhyw gyswllt â'r planhigyn hwn, gan y bydd ond ychydig iawn o'i nodd yn achosi pothelli difrifol. Mae'r coesau a'r dail wedi eu gorchuddio gyda blew bach, a bydd hyd yn oed y cyswllt lleiaf â'r rhain yn arwain at lid y croen. Bydd pothelli'n ymddangos rhwng deuddeg a phedwar deg wyth o oriau wedi'r cysylltiad, a gall llid pellach ymddangos ar y croen os daw i gysylltiad â'r haul.

Rhaid gwisgo dillad amddiffynnol os ydych yn debygol o ddod i gysylltiad â'r planhigyn hwn.

NODWEDDION ADNABOD COESYNNAU

Yn wag hyd at 5m, gyda smotiau gwyrdd, coch neu biws a blew mân miniog, a diamedr o 100mm.



DAIL

Gwyrdd tywyll mewn rhosglwm a chanddynt ymylon tolcio neu ddanheddog, blew mân ar yr ochr isaf hyd at 2m o led a 1.5m o hyd.



ARWEINIAD I
ADNABOD,
CANFOD
A
RHEOLI
EFWR
ENFAWR

Dim cyffwrdd!



BLODAU

Yn cynhyrchu blodau ganol haf sy'n wyn ac mewn cyfresi o gannoedd ar ffurf fflurbennau mawr tebyg i ymbarél, a hyd at 850mm o led.



HADAU

Gall pob planhigyn gynhyrchu hyd at 80,000 o hadau oddeutu 10mm x 7mm eu maint. Caiff y rhain eu gwasgaru'n rhwydd gan ddŵr neu'r gwynt, a gallant fod yn hyfyw am hyd at 15 mlynedd.

RHEOLAETH

Nod pob math o reolaeth yw atal y planhigyn rhag blodeuo a chynhyrchu hadau.

RHEOLAETH FECANYDDOL

Bydd defnyddio cryman neu bladur finiog i dorri'r coesyntau i'w hatal rhag blodeuo o gymorth i'w rheoli. Dylid osgoi strimio er mwyn atal halogiad gan y nodd.

Gellir defnyddio fforch neu raw i dynnu planhigion sydd ar eu heifflwydd, ar yr amod y gofelir na ddeur i unrhyw gysylltiad â'r nodd.

RHEOLAETH GEMEGOL

Mae chwistrellu'n effeithiol iawn. Gellir trin planhigion â glyffosad cyn gynted ag y byddant yn aildechrau tyfu'n weithredol, fel arfer o fis Mawrth ymlaen. Oherwydd bod cynifer o hadau hyfyw, bydd angen trin a monitro'n flynyddol am amryw o flynyddoedd er mwyn ei atal rhag dychwelyd.

Os bwriedir defnyddio chwynladdwyr ar, neu wrth ymyl cwrs dŵr, bydd angen cael cymeradwyaeth ymlaen llaw gan Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd.

DEDDFWRIAETH

O dan Ddeddf Bywyd Gwyllt a Chefn Gwlad 1981, mae'n drosedd plannu neu achosi i unrhyw blanhigyn a restrir yn atodlen naw, rhan dau'r Ddeddf, dyfu'n wyllt. Mae'r efwr enfawr wedi'i gynnwys ar y rhestr hon.

MANYLION CYSWLLT

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