

Look out for these invasive non-native species



Himalayan Balsam

Impatiens glandulifera

Leaves: Pointed oval with toothed edges

Flowers: Jul-Oct | Large slipper shaped flowers with broad petals at the opening

Growth Pattern: Grows in dense clusters up to 2.5 metres tall

Habitat: Found in many habitats, mostly along ditches & river banks

Other Features: The flowers are followed by exploding seed pods which can project the seeds up to 4 metres. The stems are fleshy & hollow, which become red/purple in the summer.



Orange Balsam

Impatiens capensis

Very similar to Himalayan Balsam but has orange flowers



Japanese Knotweed

Fallopia japonica

Leaves: Lush green with smooth edges

Flowers: Sep-Oct | Small, white, and borne in clusters on vertical branches

Growth Pattern: Bamboo-like with regular nodes on the stem. Grows in dense stands up to 2m tall

Habitat: Likes wet areas but can grow in most habitats

Other Features: The red-pink zig-zag stems are a characteristic feature of Japanese Knotweed. The mature canes are flecked with purple. Eradication is required by law, treatment by stem injection from a specialist contractor.



Giant Hogweed

Heracleum mantegazzianum

Leaves: Very large, deeply lobed and toothed

Flowers: Jun-Jul | Large flat umbels which can be up to 60cm across.

Growth Pattern: Grows very tall (up to 3.5 metres), generally with a single tall, flowering, spiny purple-flecked stem

Habitat: Found in a variety of habitats, however is common along riverbanks where the river has distributed its seeds

Other Features: The nodes where the leaves join the stem is ringed with coarse bristles. Very similar to common hogweed but much larger. **Warning:** can cause severe skin burns.



Please report any sightings to INNS mapper at innsmapper.org

Want to do more? Sign up as a volunteer volunteering.wiltshirewildlife.org

