

Japanese & Giant Knotweed

- Growth Form –Thick shrub or hedge
- Life Span -Perennial
- Origin -Asia
- Reproduction –Rhizomes, root crowns and by seed
- Height -6 to 13 feet
- Inflorescence –Individual flowers are small, but they occur in upright clusters up to six inches long
- Stem –Thick, but hollow like bamboo, rust colored and have many joints or nodes
Underground–creeping rhizomes
- Tall, robust plants from Asia in the buckwheat family
 - Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)
 - Giant knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*)
 - Bohemian knotweed hybrid (*Fallopia bohemica*)
- Other common names:
 - elephant ear bamboo
 - false bamboo
 - Mexican bamboo
 - Fleece flower
- Where Found –Throughout the U.S., forming dense patches in wet and moderately fertile ground, along banks of lakes, streams, ponds, rivers, marshes, wetlands, gardens and road ditches.
- Uses and Value –Edible plant, safe for human consumption.
- Other –One of the most difficult plants to eradicate growing in some of the most sensitive habitats. Listed as one of the 100 worst weeds in the world.

Japanese Knotweed

(*Fallopia japonica*)

- Smaller than the others (6 feet usually)
- Leaf bases are flat, not heart-shaped
- Most clones in US are female (will have seeds later in season)
- Flower clusters are longer and more ornamental

Giant Knotweed

(*Fallopia sachalinensis*)

- Tallest species, up to 15 feet
- Leaves very large all with heart shaped bases
- Flower clusters shorter
- Most clones in US are female

Bohemian Knotweed

(*Fallopia bohemica*)

- Naturally occurring hybrid between Japanese & giant knotweed
- Most common type of knotweed found so far

- Medium tall (8 to 12 feet), mixed leaf shapes
- Introduced as an ornamental separately
- Most clones were male (flower clusters stiffly upright, no seeds)
- Recently females have been showing up with viable seeds