

# *Heracleum mantegazzianum*

## Giant Hogweed

Apiaceae, the carrot or parsley family  
Category: **EDRR**



### Diagnostic Characteristics

- Perennial; can reach 8-15 feet tall when flowering
- Leaves are large, 3-5 feet wide, compound, and deeply incised
- Underside of the leaves have short hairs that are stiff and dense
- Stems are green, 2-4 inches in diameter, hollow, and have dark reddish-purple spots
- Petioles have short, coarse, white hairs at base
- Will flower in second or third year

### Background

- Native to Asia; introduced as an ornamental
- Inhabits vacant lots, rights-of-way, non-crop areas, riparian areas; prefers moist areas
- Reproduces by seed and vegetatively through buds on the crown
- Closely resembles the native cow parsnip (*H. lanatum*/*H. maximum*), except native is much shorter (2-8 feet)

Photo Credit:  
Richard Old, XID Services

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