**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 during winter.

**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.

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