# Himalayan giant lily

*Cardiocrinum giganteum*

www.weedbusters.org.nz

**Family**
Liliaceae (lily)

**Also known as**
Yunnan lily

**Where is it originally from?**
Himalaya, China

**What does it look like?**
One of the largest lilies (<3.5m tall) with a thick, wide, hollow stem tapering upwards. Leaves are thick, shiny green and heart-shaped. Clusters of large, tubular, pinkish-white tubular flowers form at the top of each plant, developing into green sausage shaped pods filled with winged seeds.

**Why is it weedy?**
Invades woodland and bush areas where there are open spaces, forms a thick cover over the ground, and is shade tolerant.

**How does it spread?**
Seed spread by gravity, wind (short distances) and humans distributing seed. Originally used in woodland garden settings and has gradually spread out from there.

**What damage does it do?**
Forms thick cover on the forest floor, crowding out any other species.

**Which habitats is it likely to invade?**
Forest and bush areas from dry to wet conditions.

**What can I do to get rid of it?**
Remove seedpods before seed is released. Dig out all parts of plant. Dispose of them at a refuse transfer station.

**What can I do to stop it coming back?**
Ensure no seed is allowed to set and be dispersed. Don't gift seeds or plants to other gardeners.

Photo: Carolyn Lewis

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