

# Himalayan giant lily

*Cardiocrinum giganteum*

## 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.



[www.weedbusters.org.nz](http://www.weedbusters.org.nz)



Photo: Carolyn Lewis



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