

# 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, and dispose of them at a refuse transfer station. Dig out plants.

### 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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