

# Japanese walnut

## *Juglans ailantifolia*

### Family

Juglandaceae (walnut)

### Also known as

*Juglans sieboldiana*, heartnut

### Where is it originally from?

Japan

### What does it look like?

Wide spreading deciduous hardwood tree (<15 m tall) with fissured bark and shoots with glandular hairs. Brown buds open into alternate divided leaves (<60 cm long) on a stalk (<40 cm long). Leaflets (6-18 x 3-8 cm) in groups of 9-17 are usually hairless above, densely hairy on veins below, with sparsely serrated edges. Single male catkins (<15 cm long) hang from stems, where female catkins are on erect spikes and are usually covered with purple hairs. Groups of 9-22 small flowers with prominent pink stigmas (Oct-Nov) are followed by clusters of 10-22 sticky, downy, rust-coloured fruit (25-40 mm) containing hard, thick-shelled nuts.

### Are there any similar species?

*Juglans regia* (<20+ m tall), has 5-9 entire leaflets, and nuts (35-55 mm long) in clusters of 1-3. North American black walnut (*J. nigra*) has serrated leaves, few nuts, each irregular and sharply ridged.

### Why is it weedy?

Long-lived (50 yrs +), canopy tree, prevents recruitment. Produces many, long-lived seed. Probably allelopathic. Tolerates hot to cold, wet to dry, semi shade.

### How does it spread?

Water, occasionally dumped nuts. possibly by pigs or possums. Old homesteads and plantations.

### What damage does it do?

Forms tall stands to canopy, not succeeded. Favoured by rats. Blocks waterways.

### Which habitats is it likely to invade?

Disturbed forest and shrubland, especially edges of watercourses downstream from plantations.

### What can I do to get rid of it?

1. Hand pull small plants (all year round). Mulch.
2. Cut trunk and paint stump (all year round): cut trunk near to the ground, and swab freshly cut stump with metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (5g/L).
3. Bore and fill (all year round): make 1 hole every 100 mm around the trunk and fill each hole with 5g metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg.
4. Overall spray small plants (summer only): metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (5g/10L).



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Photo: Carolyn Lewis



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