Bohemian knotweed

Polygonum xbohemicum

Description

Hybrid cross between Japanese knotweed (<i>Fallopia japonica</i>) and Giant knotweed (<i>Polygonum sachalinensis</i>).

Habit

Stout perennial; grows from 6-12 ft (1.8-3.7 m) tall.

Leaves

Blades ovate, 5-25 cm long and 2-10 cm wide, with rounded apex with abruptly pointed tip and truncate to cordate base; lower veins with short (<0.1 mm), pointed hairs; entire margins.

Stems

Erect; clustered and glabrous.

Flowers

Clusters of flowers often with fewer branches, white to pink in color, 0.16-0.24 in (4-6 mm), tepals are obovate to elliptic, and apex is obtuse to acute

Fruits and Seeds

Dark brown in color, shiny, 0.08-0.12 in (2-3 mm)

long, smooth and three sided with flat wings that

are 0.06-0.08 in (1.5-2.1 mm) wide.

Habitat

Native to Asia. Found in disturbed sites such has fields and pastures, wasteplaces and roadsides.

Reproduction

Mostly vegetatively from rhizomes and by seed. Each node on the plant stock is able to produce roots and new plants. New plants can sprout from small fragments.

Similar

Japanese knotweed (Polygonum cuspidatum).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Mowing or cutting plant shoots is ineffective alone; however mowing followed by herbicide treatments will provide some control. Grubbing out small clumps when discovered can prevent new colonies from establishing. Entire root system much be removed. Currently no registered biological control agents for use on this species.

Credits

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