

# Exmoor Knotweed Control Project

## Identification of Japanese and Himalayan knotweed.

Both Japanese and Himalayan knotweed are quite easy to identify:

- Japanese knotweed has heart-shaped leaves, carried on stems in a zig-zag pattern.
- Himalayan knotweed has longer, spear-like leaves.
- Flowers are creamy white and appear in late summer.
- Forms dense stands of tall canes during the summer, up to 3 metres high.
- Scattered young shoots may be seen in spring / summer where new growth is establishing or previously treated sites are growing back.
- Dies back over the autumn and winter, but the dead canes are still evident.
- Mature canes are hollow and have a characteristic pattern of purple specks.

### Japanese knotweed



Young growth in spring



Alternate leaves on zig-zag stems



Creamy white flowers



Dense stands can be seen in summer



Late autumn / winter, or following successful treatment – dead canes

## Himalayan knotweed



Long, spear-like leaves



Flowering in summer



Dense stands grow in the summer



Small, scattered shoots

The Exmoor Knotweed Control Project is jointly sponsored by the Environment Agency, English Nature, National Trust and Exmoor National Park Authority. The overall objective of the project is to control and eradicate Japanese knotweed, Himalayan knotweed and hybrids from Exmoor National Park and its associated river catchments. Recorded sites are sprayed annually as part of a treatment programme and the effectiveness of this treatment is monitored.

Any new sites should be reported to:  
Exmoor National Park Authority  
Exmoor House  
Dulverton  
Somerset TA22 9HL.

Tel no: 01398 323665  
Email: [info@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk](mailto:info@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk)