## How to distinguish Giant hogweed from Native hogweed, & Angelica

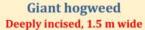














Native hogweed Less incised, more rounded



Angelica 'Pinnate', < 1m













Giant hogweed White umbrella-shaped 1m wide, 50 + rays, July



Native hogweed White, flat topped 3 x smaller, < 15 rays



Angelica Ball shaped clusters Greenish, white May-June













Giant hogweed Stiff bristles purple splotches



Native hogweed Green, fine hairs occ. purple spots



Angelica Smooth, no hairs purplish stem, waxy



Grows in huge clumps, often linear along roads & rivers

Grows singly & scattered

Grows singly & scattered











## What is this?



## What is this?













Answers: the first is native hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*); the second is giant hogweed (*H. mantegazzianum*) Note the flat-topped flower head in the native hogweed and the umbrella shape of the flower head in giant hogweed. The stems of native hogweed are green with very little purple; the stems of giant hogweed are purple flecked. There is a huge difference in size, with giant hogweed being at least five times larger.

## The main differences between native hogweed and giant hogweed are:

- Giant hogweed is huge, up to 5 metres tall; native hogweed rarely exceeds 2-3 metres tall. The leaves of giant hogweed are strikingly large, whereas native hogweed has 'normal' sized leaves.
- Giant hogweed seeds are heavy and fall close to the mother plant, which results in dense stands, sometimes hundreds of plants in a few square metres. Native hogweed generally grows as single plants even if it is abundant.
- Giant hogweed leaves are jagged and sharply divided, so the tips look pointed and sword-like, as if they have been cut with a pair of scissors. Native hogweed leaves are broad and bluntly toothed, and generally quite rounded in shape.
- Giant hogweed stems are stout, frequently with red/purplish splotches especially when mature, and with noticeable long bristles. Native hogweed stems are much thinner and with softer hairs.