

GIANT REED

Arundo donax

GRASS

Family Poaceae

Origin S. Europe and Asia

Description Tall perennial reed occurring in large clumps up to 6 m high. Superficial resemblance to bamboo. Grows along river banks, or is cultivated in parks and gardens¹⁹.

Stems/Leaves Alternate and opposite linear leaves, green to light green in colour. Leaf margins slightly rough. Leaves 10-70 cm long and 7 cm wide. Thick, unbranched stems⁸.

Flowers Dense, silky panicles 30-60 cm long, usually a whitish colour. Flowers from spring to summer¹⁹.

Fruit/Seed Caryopsis with dispersal being via wind, water and dumping⁸.

Root system Creeping horizontal rhizomes⁸.

Removal techniques

Manual Dig out the entire rhizome and remove all seed heads⁸. To remove grasses with rhizomes soak the area and allow 12 hours for the water to soak in. Work a long handled garden fork into the soil and loosen the rhizomes. Take hold of the stems and carefully pull up whilst levering the rhizomes. Using your hands follow the length of each rhizome and pull it up²¹.

Chemical Chemical controls are available. Cut the stump and apply undiluted glyphosate. Alternately spray glyphosate at a ratio of 1:50²².

Similar native species

Native Reed (*Phragmites australis*): A tall and beautiful aquatic grass with broad leaves set at right angles to stems about 2m high. Forms dense stands in marshy ground in fresh or slightly brackish water. Spreads via creeping rhizomes⁹.

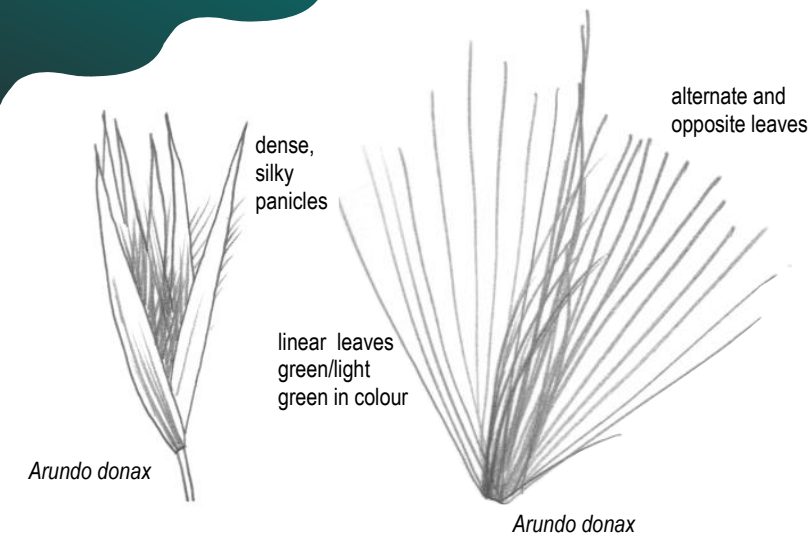
Notes

The reed will re-grow from the rhizome after cool fire events⁸.

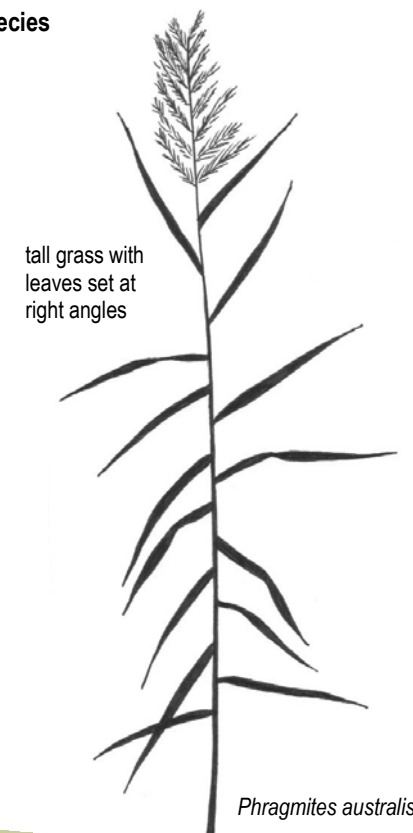
GIANT REED

Arundo donax

GRASS



Similar native species



GIANT REED
Arundo donax

GROUND COVERS

GIANT REED
Arundo donax

GROUND COVERS