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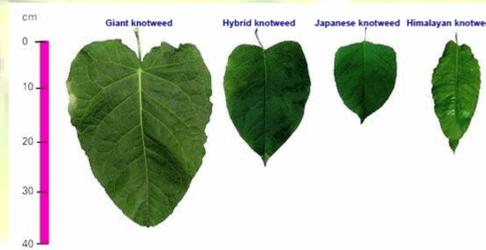
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Introduction

- Japanese and Bohemian knotweed are invasive across North America and the UK
- Hollow, bamboo-like stems grow rapidly
- Produces many seeds; mainly spreads vegetatively from shoot/root fragment
- Readily establishes in wet, disturbed areas



Emergent growth in spring (left) and full growth in summer (right)



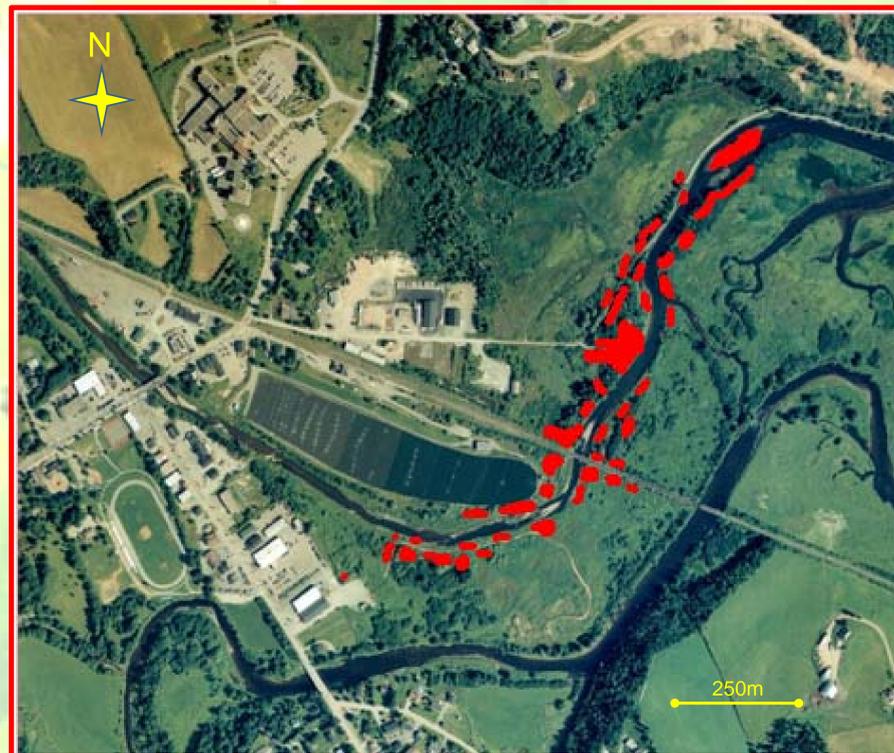
Giant and Japanese have hybridized to create Bohemian knotweed (above), which can make identification difficult (left)

Impacts

- + Tall, fast-growing plant, nice flowers
- + Edible for livestock and humans
- + Late season nectar source
- Damages foundations, pavement, structures
- Limits line of sight along roads
- Alters nutrient cycling
- Increases erosion and sedimentation
- Outcompetes native plants: ↓ biodiversity
- Extremely difficult to eradicate

Control Options

Physical: cut, pull, tarp, bury - results vary
 Chemical: herbicide movement to kill rhizome
 Alternatives: biocontrol, saltwater, wire mesh
 Integrated approach is recommended



Distribution of knotweed (red patches) along the Rights River in Antigonish, NS



Knotweed stands limit water access (left), and contribute to erosion in spring (right)

Objectives

1. Identify and describe local species
2. Ecological Effects
 - a. Map current population and future spread
 - b. Evaluate differences between knotweed, grass, and shrub habitats
 - c. Assess how small mammal populations differ in various habitats
3. Determine most significant time for effective chemical control

Expected Results

A better understanding of the local species will allow for more accurate management recommendations. Knotweed forms a mono-specific habitat which may negatively affect the native ecosystem. An early spring and late fall herbicide application will be most effective with less resources invested.

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