## Guide to this leaflet

This leaflet is intended to provide basic identification information on the fourteen plant species listed as species of Union concern under the EU IAS Regulation. Species on this side are those most likely to be encountered in trade. Overleaf are the remaining species which are less likely to be encountered in trade.

### Species likely to be encountered in trade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terrestrial plants</th>
<th>Aquatic plants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>American skunk cabbage</strong>&lt;br&gt;Lysichiton americanus</td>
<td><strong>Green cabomba</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cabomba caroliniana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bright green leathery leaves with light sheen. Rosette of leaves at plant base. 1 or 2 (sometimes up to 4) bright yellow spathes (look like large petals). Plant up to 2.5m tall, pungent odour.</td>
<td>Pairs of fan shaped, finely divided leaves. Leaf stalks 1-3 cm long, leaves 3-5 cm long. Fragile stems, with white or reddish-brown hairs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Water hyacinth</strong>&lt;br&gt;Eichornia crassipes</td>
<td><strong>Water primrose</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ludwigia grandiflora / peploides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossy, thick leaves with expanded bases. Long black feathered roots. Pale purple flowers, clustered in a large spike resembling a hyacinth.</td>
<td>Leaves dark green with lighter green central vein, long &amp; slender to round or egg shaped. Leaves arranged alternately on stem. Long creeping stems. Large, bright yellow flower with five petals, about 3 cm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</strong>&lt;br&gt;Floating pennywort</td>
<td><strong>Lagarosiphon major</strong>&lt;br&gt;Curly waterweed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiny, kidney shaped leaves with crinkled edge, usually broader than long. Fleshy stalks, fine roots. Flowers without petals, greenish, held erect.</td>
<td>Strongly curved leaves, 6-30 cm long. Lower leaves spiralled around stem. Upper leaves in spirals or whorls. Blue-green feather like leaves in whorls of 4-6. Upper leaves twisted and spiralled around stem. Upper leaves resistant to grazing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parrots feather</strong>&lt;br&gt;Myriophyllum aquaticum</td>
<td><strong>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</strong>&lt;br&gt;Parrots feather</td>
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### What to do if a suspected specimen is found.

- Seek definitive identification from XX.
- Contact XX.
- Take samples to XX for identification.

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### Notes

- *Note it is difficult to differentiate between these two species so identification guidance has been combined for the purpose of this leaflet.*
**Signal Crayfish**
*Pacifastacus leniusculus*

- Much larger than our native White-clawed Crayfish although juveniles of both species are very similar
- Claws bright red underneath with a small turquoise / white spot on the surface
- Spreads up and down stream and may cross land to colonise adjacent water bodies where it will dominate and replace our native crayfish
- Carries Crayfish Plague which is deadly to our native crayfish

**Asian Clam**
*Corbicula fluminea*

- Only freshwater clam found in the UK
- Migrates downstream to estuaries in Autumn to spawn
- Green, brown or grey in colour, front white tipped pincers covered in dense matt of fine hairs
- Legs long and hairy, body square and up to 86mm across
- Undermines riverbanks through burrowing leading to increased risk of erosion
- Invasive mollusc species usually less than 25 mm but can grow up to 50 to 65 mm in length
- Yellow-green to brown rounded triangular shell with evenly spaced ridges on surface
- Reach high densities and outcompete native species for food and space
- Threatens fish spawning grounds and native freshwater mollusc species

**Eastern baccharis**
*Baccharis halimifolia*

- Shrub, 1-2m tall.
- Usually densely branched, sometimes single stemmed from the base and tree-like.
- Female flower heads showy white and cotton-like.

**Persian hogweed**
*Heracleum persicum*

- Large plant similar to giant hogweed (*H. mantegazzianum*).
- Note: DNA testing is required to distinguish between this species, *H. persicum* and *H. mantegazzianum*.
- Warning: this species can cause skin burns on exposure to UV. For more information on Check Clean Dry visit: www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry

**White-top weed**
*Parthenium hysterophorus*

- Herbaceous plant, usually 0.5-1.5m tall, but can occasionally reach 2m.
- Lower leaves deeply divided, with the underside covered in short stiff hairs.
- Warning: pollen from this species can cause an allergenic reaction

**Sosnowski’s hogweed**
*Heracleum sosnowskyi*

- Large plant similar to giant hogweed (*H. mantegazzianum*).
- Note: DNA testing is required to distinguishing between these species, in persicum and *H. mantegazzianum*.
- Warning: this species can cause skin burns on exposure to UV.

**Kudzu vine**
*Pueraria lobata*

- Vine with hairy, rope-like, dark brown (spines up to 12cm long)
- Triangular leaves, arranged alternately along the narrow stems.
- Fragrant purple to blue flowers.

**Additional identification materials available for species of Union concern:**
- Individual ID guides for GB priority species
- Pocket guide to animal species of Union concern
- GB priority plants (poster)
- GB priority animals (poster)

For further information and materials, visit www.nonnativespecies.org