

Giant butterbur

Petasites japonicus var. *giganteus*

LIFE RIPARIAS alert list species



©Joi'ito (1)



Invasive species native to Asia.
Rare in the wild in Belgium

Found along streams,
riverbanks, wet meadows and
shady forests



Dioecious terrestrial herbaceous
plant. (Only male individuals in
Europe).

Can reach more than 1 m high and
3 m wide



Very large kidney-
shaped leaves up to 150
cm in diameter,
irregularly toothed



©Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz (2)

Rhizomatous plant forming
dense stands



©Jérémie Guyon



©Etienne Branquart

Flower clumps emerge before the
leaves in February-April and quickly
fade away afterwards



©urasimaru (4)



©Dominicus Johannes Bergsma (5)

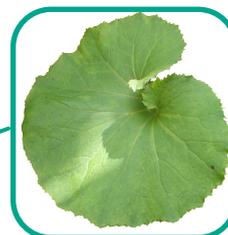
Inflorescences in
spike made up of
small fragrant cream-
coloured flowers

Pale-green
bracts

Rosettes appear in April-May and remain until the
end of summer



©Christian Grenier (6)



Not to be confused with

Petasites hybridus - Native

- Large toothed heart-shaped leaves
- Pink odourless flowers



©Zeynel Cebeci (6)



©casperrmollering (7)

Tussilago farfara - Native

- Rounded, smaller and tougher leaves
- Leaves with black edges and white-felted underneath



©Robert Flogaus-Faust (7)

If you spot that species, record your
observation on

Observations.be **iNaturalist**

You will contribute to the protection of our
ecosystems against invasive alien species



© LIFE RIPARIAS. Licence CC-BY-NC

1: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:FukiJ11.jpg>
3: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/131880272@N06/28238284335>
5: <https://tinyurl.com/5n925unm>
7: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tussilago_farfara_3_RF.jpg
9: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/74614326>

2: <https://tinyurl.com/mujs9rp2>
4: <https://tinyurl.com/r6mtzmek>
6: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/66386153>
8: <https://tinyurl.com/ynrdk74a>