

## Chilean rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*)



*Seed heads or spikes appear in Oct & Nov*

Chilean rhubarb is a giant, clump-forming herb with huge leaves that grow up to 2m high and die back in winter. The plant grows on coastal cliffs, at stream and river edges and in wetlands

Its often dense colonies have a tropical appearance with massive, umbrella-shaped leaves. The large seed heads or spikes appear in October and November. The plant has short, horizontal rhizomes. Water and, to a lesser extent, birds spread its plentiful supply of seeds.

Individual plants should be dug or grubbed out, taking care to remove all the roots.

**Chilean rhubarb only grows wild in a few places in New Zealand. Any suspected new infestations outside of cultivation should be reported to your Regional Council, who can provide advice on control methods.**