



## Giant Hogweed vs. American Cow Parsnip

**NOTE:** Both plants can cause serious skin blisters when sap gets on skin in sunlight (Photodermatitis). Giant hogweed can cause a worse reaction.

**Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*):** **Federal noxious weed.** Very tall and straight (6 -12 feet). Very wide stem (2-4 in diameter). Leaves up to 5 ft wide. Purple mottles and stiff white hairs at leaf attachments. Flower clusters are up to 2.5 ft wide: Umbels with 50 rays or more.



**American cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*):** **Common native.** Very tall (6 to 8 feet) but not as straight of a stem. Stem not as thick (1-2 in diameter). Leaves up to 2.5 ft wide. Stem reddish especially leaf attachments, but not mottled. Flower clusters to 1 ft wide: Umbels with 15 to 30 rays.

