# GIANT HOGWEED

# COMPARISON AND IDENTIFICATION SHEET

| *Plant Name* | *Leaf Shape* | *Flower* | *Stem* | *Flowering and Height* |
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| | | | | Flowers late June to mid July and can grow to be Between 7 and 14 feet tall (depending upon growth stage and if mowed or cut). |
| *Giant Hogweed* *(Heracleum mantegazzianum)* | Huge leaves, incised and deeply lobed up to 5 feet across | White flowers with 50-150 flower rays clustered into an umbrella shaped flower cluster up to 2.5 feet across | Green with purple splotches and coarse white hairs, thick circle of hairs at base of leaf stalk, 2-4 inches in diameter | |
| | | | | Flowers late May to late June and can grow up to 8 feet tall. |
| *Cow Parsnip* *(Heracleum maximum)* | Compound, less incised than hogweed, between 2 to 2.5 feet wide | White flat-topped flower clusters no larger than 1 foot wide. 15 to 30 rays per flower cluster, | Green and ridged with fine white hairs, 1-2 inches in diameter | |

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| | | | | Flowers late May to early July and can grow up to 5 feet tall |
| ***Wild Parsnip*** *(Pastinaca sativa)* | Compound, pinnate, 5 to 15 toothed leaflets, variably lobed, yellowish-green | Single flower stalk with flat-topped umbel of yellow flower clusters | Yellowish-green with full length grooves (no hairs or bristles) | |
| | | | | Flowers in mid May to mid June and at maturity is 4 to 9 feet tall. |
| ***Angelica*** *(Angelica sp.)* | Compound leaves that may extend up to 2 feet wide | Softball-sized and shaped clusters, greenish-white or white | Smooth, waxy purple, 1 to 2.5 inches in diameter (no hairs or bristles) | |
| | | | | Flowers late May to late June, and at maturity is 4 to 9 feet tall. |
| ***Poison Hemlock*** *(Conium maculatum)* | Bright green, small and fern-like, may appear glossy | Small and white arranged in numerous flat-topped clusters on all branches | Smooth and waxy stem with purple blotches, 1 to 2 inches in diameter (no hairs or bristles) | |

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

All information provided by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation: Giant Hogweed Identification page. Compiled by the University of Illinois Extension Forestry. Photos courtesy of Bugwood.org. Cow parsnip stem photo courtesy of Annalee Winter. Angelica photo credits to Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.