

**WANTED**

# Giant Reed Call 573-MISC



John M. Randall, photographer,  
The Nature Conservancy.



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Leaf sheaths,  
John M.  
Randall,  
photographer,  
The Nature  
Conservancy.

## What is it?

- Giant reed (*Arundo donax*) is a tall, sugar-cane-like grass from India that is invading Hawaii.
- The leaves are 1-2 inches wide and a foot long.
- It has many flowers on 2-foot long, dense, plume-like branches.
- This plant grows rapidly to over 20 feet in height and spreads quickly. It forms large, continuous root masses.
- Giant reed grows in moist areas and in a wide variety of conditions.

## Why is it a problem in Hawaii?

- It spreads quickly by root pieces in dirt or waterways.
- Giant reed traps sediments and blocks stream flow, leading to erosion and flooding.
- Once established, giant reed forms dense stands that choke out native plants and can alter waterbird habitat.
- It catches on fire easily, spreading wildfires that threaten homes and property.

## What is MISC doing?

- The Maui Invasive Species Committee is a partnership fighting to protect Maui County from invasive plants and animals that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life.
- MISC works to prevent invasive species from becoming established in Maui.
- MISC controls invasive species on private and public property free of charge.
- MISC educates people about invasive species and how to protect Maui.

## What can you do?

- Never import or plant giant reed.
- If you have giant reed, call MISC and give us permission to control it on your property.
- If you see giant reed growing or for sale, call MISC.
- Encourage your friends not to buy this or other pest plants so nurseries will stop selling them.
- Learn more. Visit the website <http://www.hear.org/AlienSpeciesInHawaii/>



**Together we can keep "Maui No Ka 'Oi!"**



# MISC

**MAUI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE**

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# Giant Reed is Infesting Hawaii

Help stop this plant before it becomes established and out of control



Photo by Wildland Invasive Species Team, California

- Giant reed clogs flood paths and chokes streams.
- It is found in Waikapu, Omaopio, Kula, Kihei, and Wailuku

**Every 1 Makes a Difference!**

Please call 579-2116 and give us permission to control this invasive plant on your property!



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