



Ymddiriedolaeth Natur
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Wildlife Trust



PLANT PROFILE

Montbretia

INVASIVE

FACTS

ID

**TAKE
ACTION**

TIPS

**MORE
PROFILES**

Species description

Scientific name:

Crocasmia × *crocosmiiflora*
Crocasmia aurea × *C. pottsii*

Native to:

A horticultural hybrid of species originally from South Africa.

Cronfa
Treftadaeth
Heritage
Fund



Mewn Partneriaeth â
Llywodraeth Cymru
In Partnership with
Welsh Government

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Interesting facts

Impacts:

Montbretia grows into large clumps and can outcompete native plants.

Habitat:

Woodlands and woodland edge, roadsides, gardens, coastal cliffs, hedges, the sides of lakes, rivers and streams, quarries, churchyards, and on waste ground.

A vigorous, cormous herbaceous perennial. Introduced to Britain in 1880 and was first recorded in the wild in 1907.

How it spreads:

It can produce seed but more often initially arrives in the wild by being dumped. Spreads by reproducing rhizomes that give rise to new corms a short distance from the parent plant.



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Key identification features

Branched and arching spikes of bright orange funnel shaped flowers in summer. Flowers are 3-5cm across.

Erect pale green sword-shaped leaves to 60cm tall.



Leaves turn brown in late summer.



Seed heads.



Corm.



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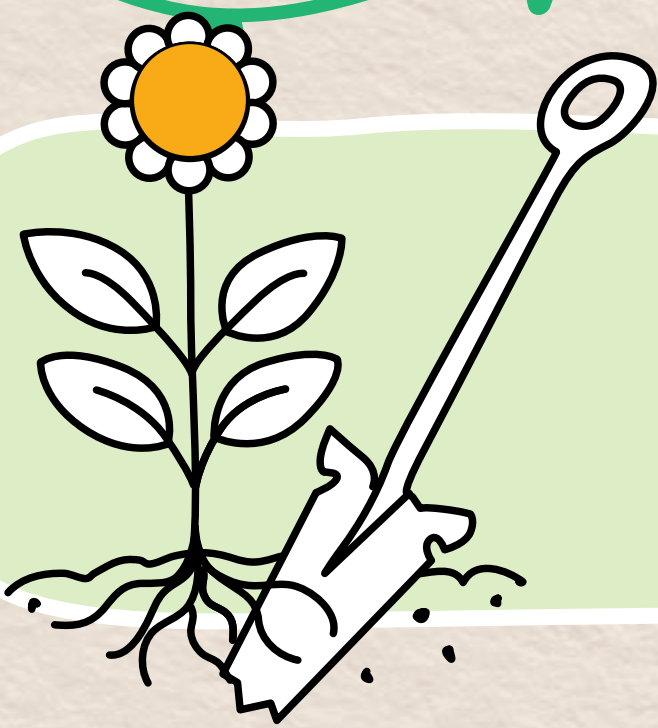
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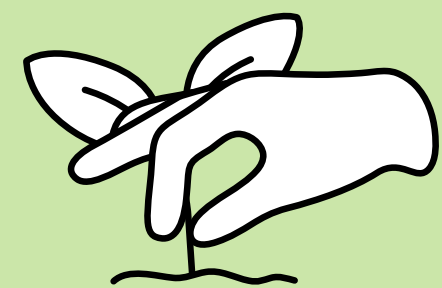
Take action

Help **stop** the **spread!**



Remove the plant by digging, taking care to remove all the corms.

Remove seedlings by hand-pulling or digging, taking care to remove the corms.



Do not compost corms at home, use council garden waste facilities.

Explore our tips for alternative plant ideas.



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Handy tips

Legislation

Montbretia is listed as an invasive species on [Schedule 9](#) of the [Wildlife and Countryside Act](#) (1981). It is an **offence to plant or cause to grow in the wild**.

Gardeners possessing this plant should undertake measures to help **stop the spread** from their gardens into the wild.

Similar species:

Not to be confused with the native yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) or native stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*)

Alternative plant ideas

Native

Yellow flag iris
(*Iris pseudacorus*)

Non-native

Rooper's red hot poker
(*Kniphofia rooperi*)



**Yellow
flag iris**



**Rooper's red
hot poker**

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Photos: Jim Higham, Christopher Whitehouse.

Illustrations: David Setter @doodleplanet and starfishonline.co.uk

Information collated from: GB NNSS, BSBI and RHS.