



Ymddiriedolaeth Natur
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Wildlife Trust



PLANT PROFILE

Yellow skunk cabbage

INVASIVE

FACTS

ID

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Species description

Scientific name:

Lysichiton americanus

Other names:

American skunk cabbage

Native to:

Western North America

Cronfa
Treftadaeth
Heritage
Fund



Mewn Partneriaeth â
Llywodraeth Cymru
In Partnership with
Welsh Government

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Interesting facts

Impacts:

Forms dense stands and can outcompete native species particularly in swampy woodlands. It is very hard to remove.

Habitat:

Wet woodland, ponds and streams, muddy pond margins, swamps and marshes.

A robust herbaceous perennial that likes wet sites.

Yellow skunk cabbage was introduced to Britain in 1901 and was known in the wild by 1947.

How it spreads:

Dispersed downstream by water but also by birds and mammals.



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Key identification features

Unpleasantly-scented, bright yellow spathes to 45cm in height in early spring.

Yellow spathes look like large petals.



Rich green oval and leathery leaves develop after flowering, up to 1.2m in length.

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Take action

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



Remove the plant by digging, removing all of the roots

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

You can find more guidance on management [here](#).

Explore our tips for alternative plant ideas.



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Handy tips

Legislation

Yellow skunk cabbage is listed in [The retained EU Regulation 1143/2014](#) and is **prohibited from sale** as a [Species of Special Concern](#).

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 native lords-and-ladies (*Arum maculatum*)



Lords-and-ladies

Alternative plant ideas

Native

Lords-and-ladies (*Arum maculatum*)

Water avens (*Geum rivale*)

Non-native

Plantain lily 'Sum and Substance' (*Hosta* 'Sum and Substance')

Astilbe 'Fanal' (*Astilbe* 'Fanal')



Water avens

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