A native of South America, canna lily has been extensively used as a garden plant. It is common invader of wet habitats and is also found in disturbed areas.

It is commonly spread into bushland and rainforest areas by the dumping of garden waste where it can form dense clumps. Seeds are also spread by birds. Canna lily is an invasive plant which can disrupt native flora communities and ecosystems.

Description

It is a large-leaved herb growing to around 2m in height. Leaves are very large (up to 20 x 55cm in size), alternate and taper to a narrow sheath at the base. Flowers are red, yellow or red and yellow and occur in a spike. Fruit are hard and spiky. The seed are small, black pellets which are heavy enough to sink in water.

Management

Small plants can be hand removed, taking care to remove the root system. Ensure that all fruits and seeds are collected and removed as well.

If you would like further information on weeds look at the A–Z Listing of Weeds at Queensland Government Website.