

Have you seen this invasive plant?

Italian arum, or “Lords and Ladies,” is an escaped, poisonous plant that is rapidly destroying riverside and wetland habitats..

Learn more at www.nwcb.wa.gov



Arrowhead-shape leaves can be green or ornamented with silver- or cream-color veins, purple splotches, or speckles.



Flowerheads (spring-summer) are an erect, yellowish spike backed by a pale, leaflike hood.



Tightly clustered berries cover the spike in summer, turning a brilliant orange-red when mature.



Roots are thick tubers. They produce many tiny “daughter” tubers that easily break off and start new plants.

Why is Italian arum (*Arum italicum*) a noxious weed?

- All parts of this weed are poisonous to people, pets, livestock, and wildlife. Do not handle it without gloves.
- It has escaped gardens and is rapidly invading sensitive natural areas, especially in western Washington.
- It displaces native plants that wildlife needs.
- Spreading in yard waste, in compost, among gardeners, by birds, and by creating tiny “daughter” tubers, Italian arum is extremely difficult to control.

Where do you find Italian arum?

- Preferring moist, shady areas, Italian arum is mostly invading forests, by streams, rivers, and wetlands.

What can you do?

- Don't buy, trade, or share this plant. Other names include Lords and Ladies, Cuckoo Pint, and Italian Lily.
- Cut and bag berries in autumn, before they fall off.
- Carefully dig small patches, being careful to get all the tubers. You'll probably have to repeat this step yearly.
- Dispose of all plant material in plastic bags in the garbage.
- Please report any sightings to your county noxious weed control board or to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov.

