



Rhododendron ponticum control in Scotland



Plant Swap Scheme

Rhododendron ponticum

The highly invasive *Rhododendron ponticum* (*R.ponticum*) is recognised as a major threat to biodiversity throughout much of Scotland. It is particularly damaging to native woodlands where it out-competes native plant species. It causes habitat change and hydrological damage, shades watercourses, damages fencing and can lead to loss of grazing and the poisoning of livestock.

To help you control and eradicate this invasive plant, Manta Ecology offers the following services as required:

- advice & assistance with accessing funding streams
- on-site assessment, surveying & mapping
- control and follow-up eradication treatment

We use a variety of control methods depending on your requirements:

- stem treatment
- foliar spraying
- manual removal
- stump treatment

No need to worry about your other rhododendron species, they're not invasive!

Sites can be completely cleared of all *R.ponticum* including stumps, ready for replanting.



A typical mature stand of *R.ponticum* will shade and kill ground vegetation including saplings



The same stand after stem treatment

Plant swap

There is no need to lose that vital shelterbelt or welcome splash of colour in your garden. At **no cost** to yourself, we will replace your *R.ponticum* with a choice of other hardy, beautiful plants. All you have to do is choose the species you like, relax and leave the rest to us!

We recommend...

The rhododendron cultivar 'Cunningham's White' is widely regarded as one of the best substitutes for *R.ponticum* for shelter; it is hardy, perfectly adapted for the Scottish climate and provides excellent shelter for gardens and estates.



Family: *Ericaceae*

Genus: *Rhododendron*

'Cunningham's White' is a robust hybrid of *R.ponticum*, unlike its cousin it is a sterile hybrid and will not spread into the wild. It can grow to 2.2m tall, with dark green foliage and single or bunched, funnel-shaped white flowers opening from mauve buds in late spring.

'Cunningham's Blush' is a very similar plant, but has light pink flowers! Other plants are available through the **plant swap** scheme.

The **plant swap** scheme is entirely free to home & land owners. Disruption is kept to a minimum.

Other recommended species

The following plants are also recommended for their beauty and robust nature.

Description

Blue Peter - light lavender flowers with purple flair. Flowers June

Caucasicum pictum - frilled pink. Flowers April/May. Compact plant

Colonel Coen - deep purple. Flowers May

Cunningham's Blush - light pink flowers, very hardy. Flowers May

Doncaster - scarlet with black markings. Flowers May/June

Fastuosum flore pleno - semi-double lavender. Flowers June

Gomer Waterer - pink buds, blush white flowers. Flowers June/July

Jean-Marie de Montague - scarlet crimson. Flowers late May

Lord Roberts - dark crimson flowers with black flare. Flowers June/July

Mrs. Tom Lowinsky - pale pink flared orange brown. Flowers June

Pink Pearl - large growing soft pink flowers. Flowers May/June

Purple Splendour - dark purple flowers with a black eye. Flowers May

Sappho - white, deep purple blotch flowers. Flowers June

Sonata - bright orange flowers, edged with red,. Flowers June

Vulcan - bright red. Flowers May/June

For a full and detailed list of **plant swap** species, please contact us by any means. For any other information please visit our website.



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