

# Japanese aralia

*Fatsia japonica*

## What does it look like?

An evergreen shrub growing to 1–5 m tall, with stout, sparsely branched stems. Large, leathery, spirally-arranged leaves 20–40 cm in width and on a petiole up to 50 cm long. Flowers are small, white, borne in dense terminal compound umbels in late autumn or early winter, followed by small black fruit in spring (source - Wikipedia).

## Why is it a problem?

Hardy, grows well in semi to full shade, can shade out native plants. Establishes in waste areas, spreading by suckers and prolific self seeding. Contact with sap can cause skin rash.



## Related Links

Weedbusters <https://www.weedbusters.org.nz/what-are-weeds/weed-list/rice-paper-plant/>