

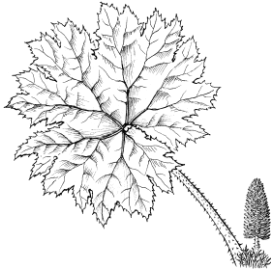
GUNNERACEAE Chilean Rhubarb Family

Pls ♂♀ to ♂,♀; infls from axils of distal lvs, peduncled, appearing terminal, pan of spikes (capitate), proximal fls often ♀, distal fls often ♂, medial fls often ♀; sepals (0–)2, distinct, inconspicuous, petals 0(2), distinct and inconspicuous if present; stamens (1–)2; pistil 2-carpellate, ovary inferior, 1-locular, ovule 1; styles and stigmas 2, short or elongate; fr drupes; rhizomes tipped with stip-like scales (cataphylls) or not; deciduous, stless, mostly per herbs with lvs petiolate, simple, alt but clustered basally, usually palmately toothed or lobed, and palmately veined.

Gunnera L. Chilean rhubarb

Fls inconspicuous, sessile or ped; anthers attached basally; stigmas linear; drupes oblong to ovate; petioles harboring symbiotic *Nostoc* cyanobacteria. (For John Ernest Gunner, Norwegian botanist, 1718–1773). Several spp. cult as orn in temp areas; also escaping in w Europe, Australia, and New Zealand.

Gunnera manicata Linden ex André, a similar orn from Brazil with rounder lf lobes, occ reported as an escape but not convincingly documented.



G. tinctoria (Molina) Mirb. Giant r., dinosaur food, nalca. Large per; rhizomes ± horizontal, massive with age, tipped with ∞ lacinate, pinkish-translucent membranous scales 10–21 cm; petioles 7–150 × 0.5–4.5 cm, sparsely hairy, armed with stout, conical bristles; lvs 25–200 cm, orbicular to reniform, shallowly palmately lobed, the lobes jagged and gen acute, sinuses deep on juvenile lvs, scab and sparsely hairy above, veins often sunken, veins of lower surface sparsely hairy and with scattered stout, conical bristles; peduncle ± erect, infl a dense to loose ± cylindrical pan of densely-fl'd spikes, 20–100 × 6–25 cm, infr brs 1.5–10.5 × 0.7–1.2 cm; fl ∞; fr sessile, orange, 2–2.1 mm, ± ovate, 1-seeded; seed dark brown, ovate, lenticular, 1.4 mm diam; s S Am intro; coastal, wet cliffs, marine bluffs, damp thickets, ditches, and disturbed for; also long-persisting as a garden relic; VI, s OR, n CA; Azores, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand.