

# Weed Alert! Stinking iris



# Stinking iris

(*Iris foetidissima*)

**Mature Size** Knee



## Description

- Up to 2 ft. clump-forming perennial with large flowers
- Flowers are 2-4 in. wide with dark veins
- 6 flower “petals” are dull yellow with greenish-brown markings, or brownish-purple to pale lavender
- Green seed pods are 2 in. long, and will split along three seams
- Fleshy, bright-orange to scarlet pea-shaped seeds
- Leathery, dark green, sword-shaped leaves are 10 in. to 2½ ft. long, and up to 1 in. wide
- Leaves have unpleasant smell when crushed
- Reproduces by seed and vegetatively from rhizomes
- Spread by birds, water, equipment, horticulture
- Native to southern/western Europe, northern Africa, Mediterranean region



**Bloom Period** Jun - Jul

**Habitat** Coastal regions, scrub and forest margins, open woods, shady sites



**2-Minute Removal** Dig

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These cards were adapted from a design by National Park Service.