

Hydrilla Early Detection Rapid Response Plan for Illinois

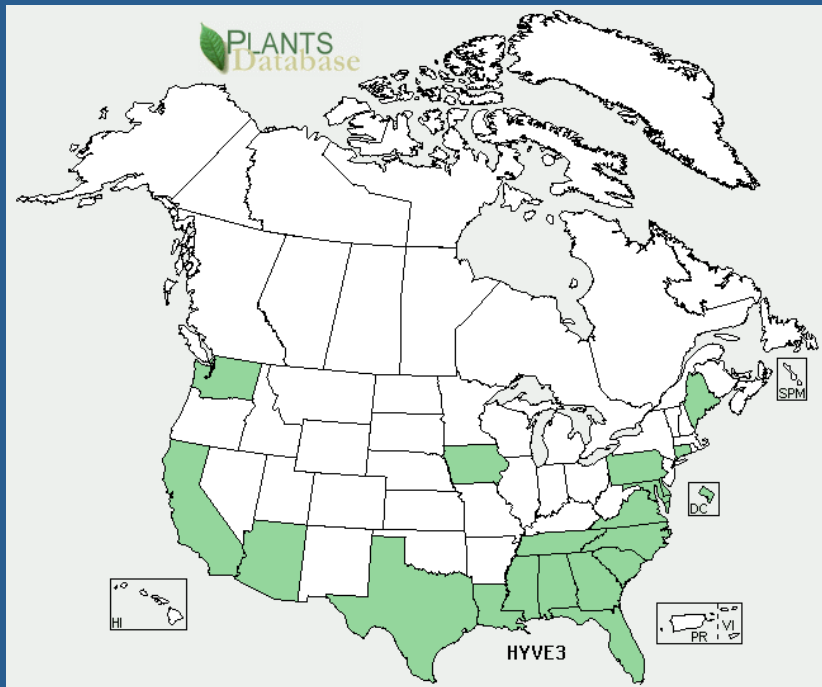


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Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership



Introduction to Hydrilla: An aquatic superweed



Hydrilla verticillata

Important Species Characteristics

- Rapid growth
- Tolerance of wide range of water quality
- Turions
- Tubers
- Vegetative spread



Why it's important to have a plan

- Proximity of infestations
- Expense and difficulty of eradication and control
- Ecological impacts
- Recreational water use effects



Hydrilla Management Plan



- Statewide
- Early Detection & Rapid Response
- Public, nonprofit, and private sector

Early Detection

- Education and outreach
- Training target audiences
- Expanding monitoring and reporting
- Increased access to distribution information



Hydrilla
Hydrilla verticillata
Photo by Vic Ramey
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Education and Outreach

Existing outlets:

- Illinois Indiana Sea Grant
- Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership
- River to River CWMA
- RiverWatch
- ILMA



Training Target Audiences

- Boaters
- Anglers
- Monitors
- And you...



LOOK-ALIKES:

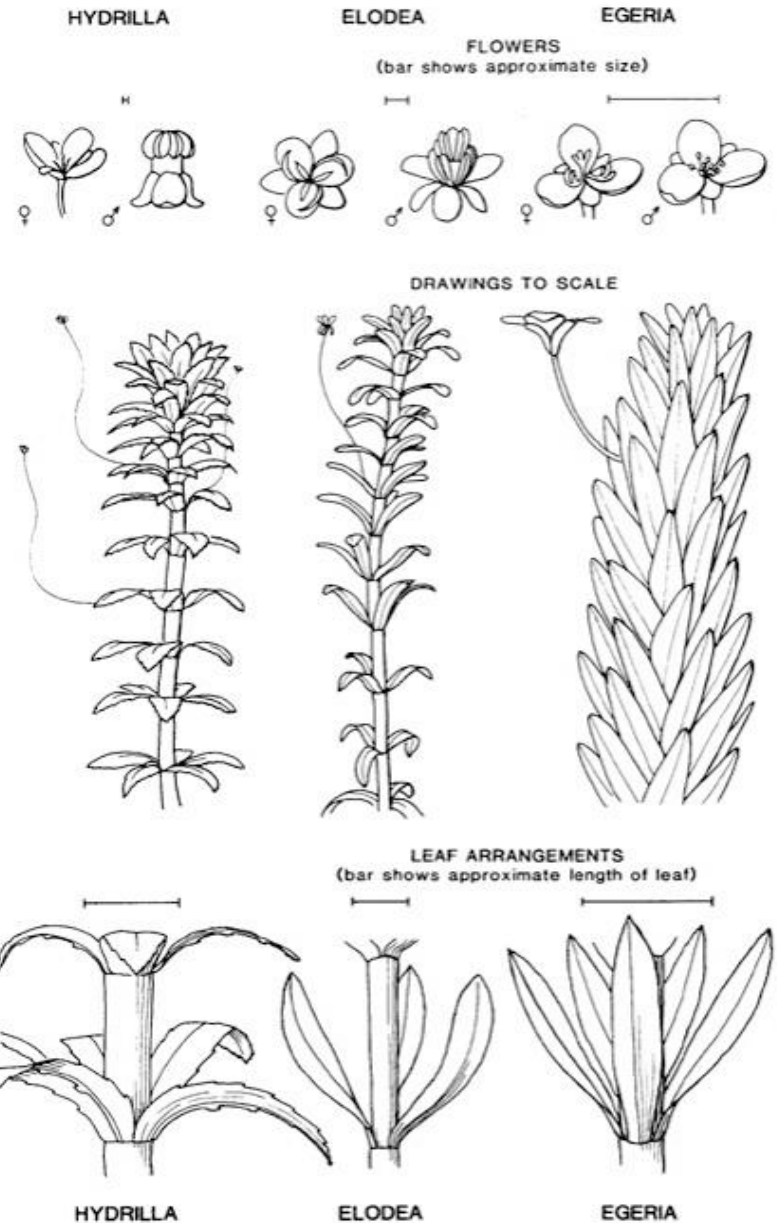
Brazilian Waterweed; leaves longer, in whorls of 4 - 6 (8), bushier in appearance, without tubers.

Hydrilla; leaves in whorls of 3 - 8 with tiny spines along the leaf margins. The midrib of each leaf is often reddish. Hydrilla produces tubers (small potato-like structures).

Common Waterweed, *Elodea canadensis*; leaves occur in whorls of 3 around the stem (or opposite), without tubers.



Common Waterweed



Expanding Monitoring and Reporting

- Increased number of trained monitors
- Easy access reporting and verification via New Invaders Watch Program and River to River CWMA

The screenshot displays the 'New Invaders Watch Program' website. The header includes the program name and a login section with fields for 'Username' and 'Password', and buttons for 'Log In', 'Become a Volunteer', and 'Lost your password?'. A navigation menu contains links for 'About', 'Partners', 'Report an Invader', 'Target Species', 'Maps', 'Trainings & Activities', 'Training Materials', and 'Additional Resources'. The main content area is titled 'Target Species' and contains a detailed explanation of the target species list, including categories like 'New' and 'Spreading'. Below this, there are two columns of species names: 'Target Species' and 'Spreading Target Species'. The 'Target Species' column lists plants like Baby's Breath, various Lespedeza species, Giant Hogweed, Flowering Rush, Hydrilla, Brazilian Elodea, Annual Stilt Grass, Giant Manna Grass, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Chinese Yam, Japanese Hops, Mile-a-minute Weed, Kudzu, Black Swallow-wort, Pale Swallow-wort, and Sawtooth Oak. The 'Spreading Target Species' column lists Spotted Knawweed, Leafy Spurge, Japanese Knotweed, Japanese Bamboo, Silver Grass, Oriental Bittersweet, Korean Pear, and Emerald Ash Borer. A disclaimer at the bottom states that text and photos are borrowed from various government sources. The footer includes the logo for the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health and credits the University of Georgia as the developer, with a last update date of December 10, 2013.

Increased Access to Distribution Information

USDA PLANTS Symbol: M15
New Invaders Watch Program
Early Detection and Rapid Response Network

Search:

Search:

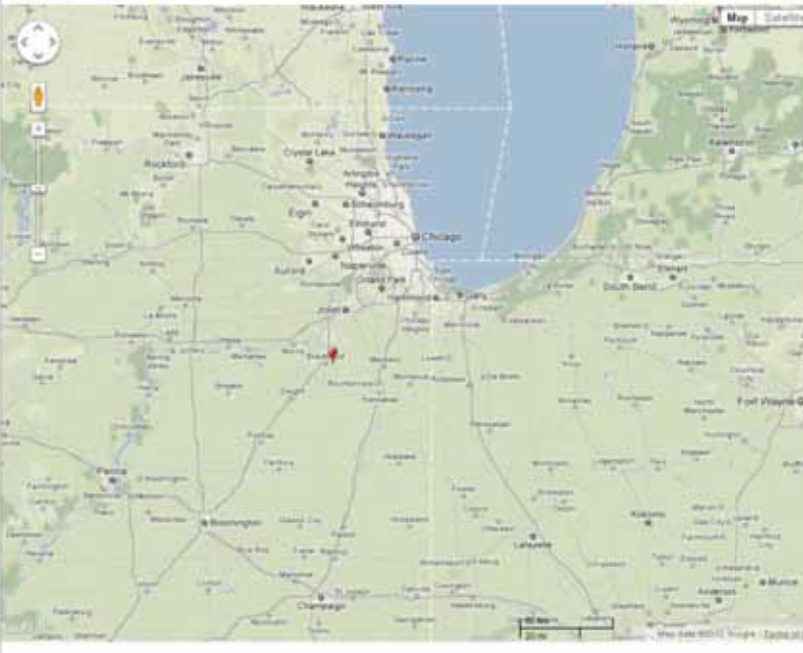
[About](#) [Partners](#) [Report an Invader](#) [Target Species](#) [Maps](#) [Trainings & Activities](#) [Training Materials](#)

Japanese stiltgrass
Microstegium vimineum (Trin.) A. Camus

USDA PLANTS Symbol: M15
Invasive Plant Atlas

Load Time: 44 ms

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A map of the Midwest United States showing the distribution of Japanese stiltgrass. Red dots indicate reported locations, primarily clustered around the Great Lakes region and extending southward into Indiana and Ohio. The map includes major cities, roads, and water bodies.

New Invaders Watch Program
Early Detection and Rapid Response Network

Username:

Password:

Search:

[About](#) [Partners](#) [Report an Invader](#) [Target Species](#) [Maps](#) [Trainings & Activities](#) [Training Materials](#)

Japanese knotweed
Fallopia japonica Sieb. & Zucc.

USDA PLANTS Symbol: FAJAC
Invasive Plant Atlas

Load Time: 57 ms

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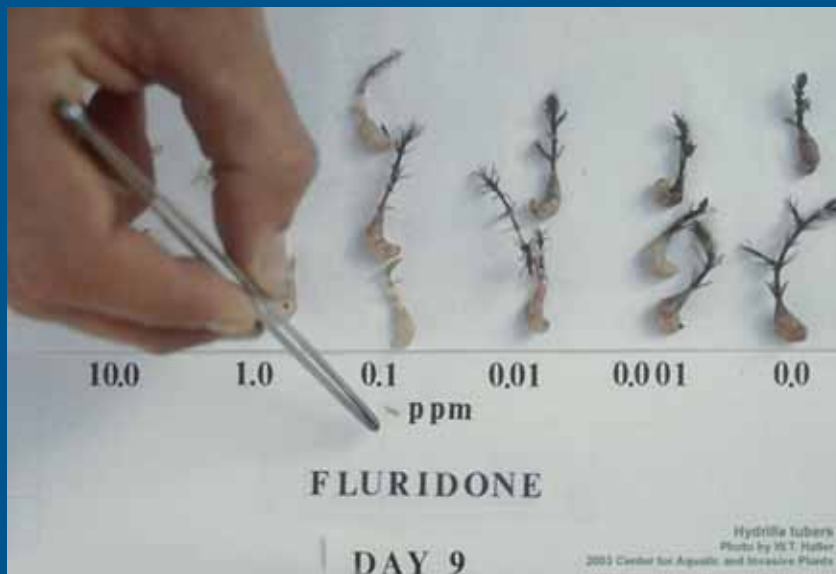
A map of the Midwest United States showing the distribution of Japanese knotweed. Red dots indicate reported locations, showing a much higher density and wider geographic spread compared to Japanese stiltgrass, covering most of the region from the Great Lakes down to the Gulf Coast.

Rapid Response

- Establish Response Team
- Obtain Permits/Permissions
- Increase capacity to respond to invasion (financially and legally)



Establish Response Team



- Memorandum Obligation Document
- Tiered level of response

Obtain Permits/Permission

- Local
- Regional
- State
- Federal



Increased Capacity



- Rapid communication network in place
- Team member tasks clearly outlined in MOD
- Herbicide stockpile

Current Partners

- Chicago Wilderness Aquatics Task Force (CW ATF)
- Lake County Health Department: Lakes Management Unit
- Illinois Lakes Management Association (ILMA)
- Chicago Botanic Garden (CBG)
- Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP)
- Illinois EPA
- Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP)
- Integrated Lakes Management (ILM)
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
- Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG)
- University of Georgia, Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health
- River to River CWMA
- USDA APHIS
- Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN)



Thank you!

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