

Eurasian watermilfoil

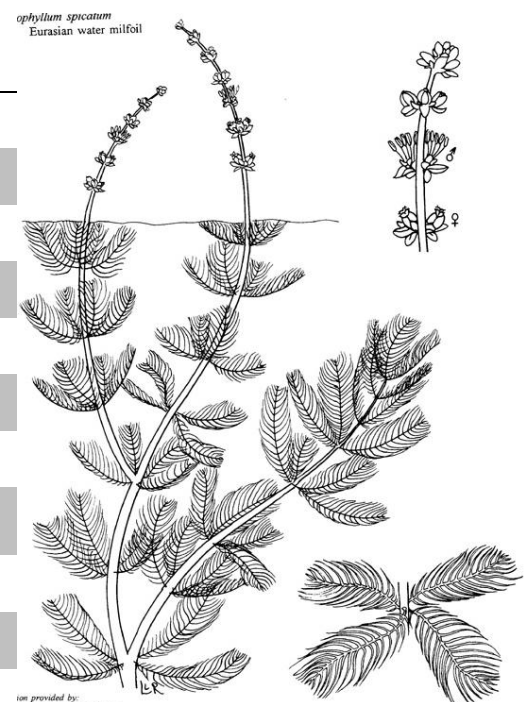
[*Myriophyllum spicatum*]



DESCRIPTION

Eurasian water milfoil is an aquatic plant with slender stems, and feathery leaves. The leaves are threadlike, typically uniform in diameter, and aggregated into a submersed terminal spike. The stem thickens below the inflorescence and doubles its width the closer you get to the main stem of the plant. The plant also has small flowers in the axils of the plant that are located above the water surface. The flowers are either four-petaled or without petals. The fruits are four-jointed. Coontail can be confused with the milfoils, but does not have individual leaflets.

CHARACTERISTIC	DESCRIPTION
Growth Season	perennial
Growth Habit	submersed
Leaflet Number	many
Leaf Margin	finely dissected
Leaf Hairs	none
Leaf/Leaflet Shape	feather-like
Leaf Length	12 inches
Leaf Arrangement	a whorl of 3 or 4 along the stem
Root Type	
Flower Color	yellow





Eurasian watermilfoil



Eurasian watermilfoil

Publication Copyright Information:

© North Carolina State University. Text and photographs for these information sheets was prepared by Rob Richardson, Bridget Lassiter, Gail Wilkerson, and Steve Hoyle. Department of Crop Science, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, North Carolina State University. Prepared April 2008. This publication was made possible through a seed grant (University Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development Grant) administered by North Carolina State University.

References:

Line drawings:

University of Florida/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. Used with permission. Available online from <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/slidecol.html>

Text:

Aulback-Smith, C. A., and de Kozlowski, S. J. 1996. Aquatic and Wetland Plants of South Carolina. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.