

Ipomoea aquatica

WATER-SPINACH

Convolvulaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

FLEPPC Category: 1

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

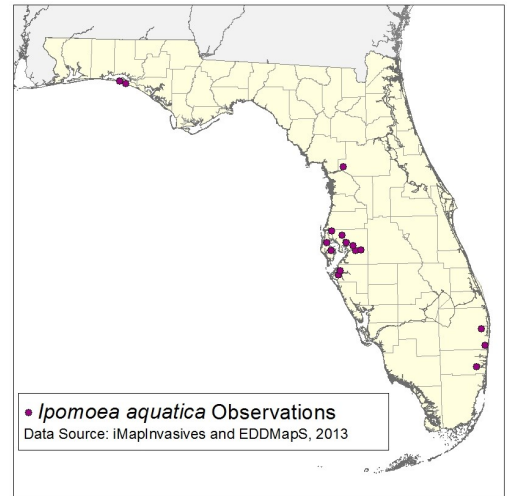
IFAS Assessment

North	-
Central	-
South	-

USDA Hardiness Zone: 7a - 11

Growth Habit: Herbaceous aquatic vine

Origin: Central to south China



Charles T. Bryson, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Description: Herbaceous, aquatic vine with milky sap. Stalked leaves alternate, arrowhead shaped. Showy tubular flowers, white, to 5 cm. Fruit an oval woody capsule, 1 cm wide with 1-4 grayish seeds.

Habitat: Shallow water in ponds, lakes and rivers

Comments: Federal Noxious Weed. Cultivated for edible greens. So far apparently eradicated when established but likely to be reintroduced. Forms dense floating mats that shade out submersed plants.

Florida Introduction Date: pre-1950

Control Methods:

Chemical: Foliar (2,4-D or 2,4,5-T applied at 1000 ppmw, Misra and Das)

**Follow herbicide labels: Only herbicides registered for application in water by EPA and FDACS may be applied to weeds growing in or near water.

Useful Resources:

Dave's Garden. 2013. PlantFiles: Chinese water spinach, swamp cabbage, swamp morning glory, *Ipomoea aquatica*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/1263/>. Accessed on December 10, 2013.

IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. 2013. Water spinach. <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/node/201>. Accessed on December 10, 2013.

ISSG. 2013. Global Invasive Species Database: *Ipomoea aquatica*. http://www.issg.org/database/species/management_info.asp?si=477&fr=1&sts=tss&lang=EN. Accessed on December 3, 2013.

Langeland, K.A., H.M. Cherry, C.M. McCormick, K.C. Burks. 2008. Identification and Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas-Second Edition. IFAS Publication SP 257. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Misra, G. and N. Das. ND. Studies on the control of aquatic weeds of Orissa: Response of *Pistia stratiotes*, *Spirodela polyrhiza*, and *Ipomoea aquatica* to hormone herbicides. <http://www.apms.org/japm/vol08a/v8p40.pdf>. Accessed on December 10, 2013.