

Salvinia molesta

GIANT SALVINIA

Salviniaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

FLEPPC Category: -

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

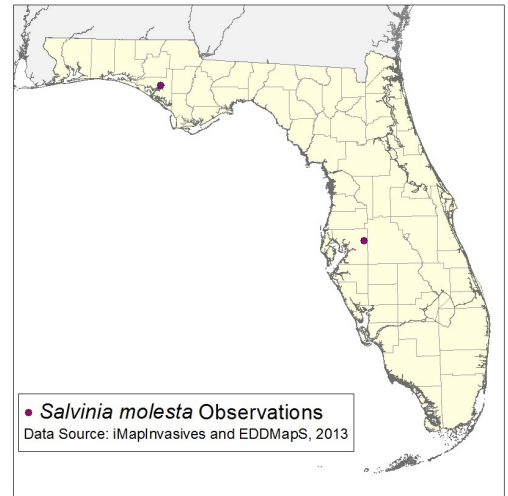
IFAS Assessment

North -
Central -
South -

USDA Hardiness Zone: 8a-11

Growth Habit: Floating Aquatic Herb

Origin: Brazil



Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org

Description: Floating fern, mat forming, with rootless stems to 10 cm long. Leaves born in 3s, appear distichous (third leaf resembling roots), rounded to broadly elliptic, to 1.5 to 3 cm long and wide, often folded along the midrib, base cordate, hairy on both surfaces, papilla on upper surface with 4 distal hairs joined at the tips (resembling a basket).

Note: Common salvinia (*Salvinia minima*) has hair branches free at their tips.

Habitat: Lake, river

Comments: Vouchered only in 2 counties. Noxious weed in other regions. Spread by watercraft. Targeted for immediate eradication whenever found.

Florida Introduction Date: Earliest Florida specimen vouchered in 2000.

Control Methods:

No specific treatments available.

Useful Resources:

IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. 2013. Giant Salvinia, *Salvinia molesta*. <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/node/396>. Accessed on December 9, 2013.

IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. 2013. Weed Alert: Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*). http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/weedalert/invasiveplants_giantsalvinia.pdf. Accessed on December 9, 2013.

Dave's Garden. 2013. PlantFiles: Giant Salvinia, *Salvinia molesta*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/55956/>. Accessed on December 9, 2013.