



Invasive Aquatic Plants

13

13A

Curlyleaf Pondweed

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff,
University of Connecticut,
Bugwood.org

13B

Eurasian Watermilfoil

Photo: Graves Lovell, Alabama
Department of Conservation and
Natural Resources,
Bugwood.org

13C

Flowering Rush

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of
Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Curlyleaf Pondweed

Curlyleaf pondweed is native to Africa, Eurasia and Australia, and was introduced into the United States in the early 1900s by hobbyists who used this plant in aquariums. When the aquarium water was dumped into lakes, streams, and rivers, curlyleaf pondweed established and crowded out native

Class: Magnoliopsida
Family: Potamogetonaceae
Species: *Potamogeton crispus* Linnaeus

species. This plant has curly edged leaves that resemble lasagna noodles and a four-angled stem that can grow to lengths of up to 31 inches! Native species of pondweed in Montana have veins that run parallel, whereas veins of curly leaf pondweed branch from a mid-vein in a perpendicular pattern. Report sightings to your local Extension office, county weed office or FWP by calling 406-444-2449. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://mtweed.org/weeds/curly-leaf-pondweed/>
http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AqClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweededucation/PDF/30_Curlyleaf_Pondweed.pdf



Graves Lovell, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bugwood.org

Eurasian Watermilfoil

Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) is a submerged aquatic plant that is native to Europe, Asia and North Africa. EWM has slender floating stems, submerged leaves that are borne in whorls of four, pinnate, with 12-21 pairs of thread-like leaflets. To determine the difference between native milfoil

Class: Magnoliopsida
Family: Haloragaceae
Species: *Myriophyllum spicatum* Linnaeus

and EWM, count the number of pairs on a leaf. Native northern milfoil has less than 12 pairs of thread-like leaflets on a whorl. The most common way that EWM is spread is through distribution by watercraft; even the smallest fragment of EWM can establish new plants. Report sightings to your local Extension office, county weed office or FWP by calling 406-444-2449. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://mtweed.org/weeds/eurasian-water-milfoil/>
http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AqClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweededucation/PDF/31_Eurasian_Watermilfoil.pdf



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Flowering Rush

Flowering rush is native to Eurasia and was introduced into the United States as an ornamental that escaped cultivation. Flowering rush grows in ditches, marshes, lakes and streams. This aquatic perennial can grow up to 5 feet tall, has a triangular 3-sided stem, and sword-like leaves that can be up

Class: Magnoliopsida
Family: Butomaceae
Species: *Butomus umbellatus* Linnaeus

to 3 feet long. Flowering rush blooms from June to August. Flowers consist of 3 pink petals and 3 pink sepals that resemble petals. The primary way that this plant reproduces is through creeping rhizomatous roots and 'bulb-lets' that are produced on the rhizomes. Report sightings to your local Extension office, county weed office or FWP by calling 406-444-2449. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://mtweed.org/weeds/flowering-rush/>
http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AqClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweededucation/PDF/32_Flowering_Rush.pdf



Invasive Aquatic Snails and Clams

8A

New Zealand Mudsnail



Photo: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

8B

Asian Clam



Photo: Shawn Liston, Audubon of Florida, Bugwood.org



New Zealand Mudsnail

Class: Gastropoda
Order: Neotainioglossa
Species: *Potamopyrgus antipodarum* (Gray)

other invertebrates and may impact the fishery it is introduced into by reducing food availability. The NZMS can range in size from a grain of sand to 1/8" long. Its color ranges from brownish to bluish-green to black. Its operculum covers the opening of the shell, which is on the left when the point is up. It can close its operculum to avoid desiccation. It has reached densities as high as 500,000 per square meter. You can help stop this invader when you Inspect, Clean and Dry your aquatic equipment and by reporting any sighting to FWP by calling 406-444-2449 or online at <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishing/guide/AIS/aisSighting>. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1008>

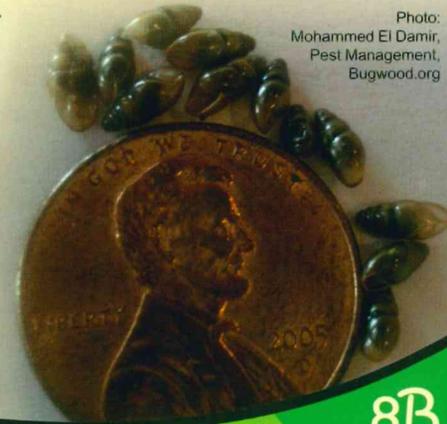


Photo: Mohammed El Damir, Pest Management, Bugwood.org



Asian Clam

Class: Bivalvia
Order: Veneroida
Species: *Corbicula fluminea* Müller

The Asian clam has spread to 38 states in the U.S. since its introduction in the late 1930s. It is not known to exist in Montana. They spread via bait bucket introduction, accidental introductions associated with imported aquaculture species and intentional introductions by people who buy them as a food item in markets. Over-accumulation of clams on surfaces is thought to be the most prominent effect of their introduction. The sexes are normally separate, however, hermaphrodites exist and are capable of self-fertilization. It is estimated that removing them in the U.S. costs about a billion dollars each year. It can also out-compete native invertebrates for food and space. You can help stop this invader when you Inspect, Clean and Dry your aquatic equipment and by reporting any sighting to FWP by calling 406-444-2449 or online at <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishing/guide/AIS/aisSighting>. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=92>