

Aquatic Plants and Algae Species Assessment Group - Summary of group ratings

Date: 09/26/2007

Members of the SAG: Robert Dahl, DATCP; Tim Hoyman, WAL; Shawn Wenzel, Aquatic Innovators, LLC; Laura Herman, UWSP;

Robert Freckmann, UWSP Freckmann Herbarium; John Skogerboe, USACOE; Kristy Maki, Sawyer County; Phil Moy, Sea Grant (not present);

Bill Ratajczyk, Applied Biochemists; Tony Kuchma, Oneida Tribe; Susan Lehnhardt, Applied Ecological Services, LLC

DNR leader: Dr. Jennifer Hauxwell **Facilitator:** Bob Korth (UWSP Lakes Program)

Species: *Myriophyllum aquaticum* (Parrot feather)

Ratings for Criteria - 1st round	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. Current status and distribution	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
2. Establishment potential	4	2	4	ii	3	4	3.5	3	2	1	
3. Damage potential	4	2	4	4	3	3	4	2	ii/2	2	
4. Prevention and control potential	3	2	4	4	3	3	4	2	3	2	
5. Socioeconomic impacts	2	2	3	4	4	2	4	2	3	1	

Ratings for Classification	P	W	P	R	P	P	P	W	R	W		
Totals - 1st round	Prohibited			Restricted			Watch			Non-restricted		
Number of votes	5			2			3					

Ratings for Classification	P	W	P	R	P	P	P	W	R	W		
Totals - 2nd round	Prohibited			Restricted			Watch			Non-restricted		
Number of votes	5			2			3					

Final Recommended Classification :

Prohibited

Comments

A lot of discussion among group regarding rating. There are strong concerns about rating it as Prohibited because of plant's importance to water plant trade and the popularity of the plant with the public.

1 – If it does establish, can you get rid of it? It seems difficult to control once it does establish. I put it in prohibited because it is a Myriophyllum. How much evolving is it going to do—to what extent might this species evolve a more cold-hardy form? Could we revisit this plant in two years to evaluate based on new info?

2 – Have grown this one outside in a sunken tub, it did make it through one winter at least, but it didn't come back strong enough, I had to replant in the spring from the greenhouse.

The 2-3 years it did overwinter, but only because a substantial accumulation of leaves had developed to protect it. Overwinter survival seems spotty at best. Here: 'overwinter' means I would have to go out and nurse it back to health. The 2 times it did overwinter, the plant grew back like I had replanted.

3 – Will grow in the area of the littoral zone with the most species diversity, will have a great impact on diverse emergents.

It is a lot easier to detect because it is emergent, we do have herbicides to treat it.

4 – We know this overwinters in water gardens to some extent. Has potential for high degree of damage where it does escape.

5 – If I knew this wouldn't overwinter, I would go to watch. I would prohibit because it's not here, but I see the problem for water gardening. There is a potential to overwinter.

6 – More investment in control and research lately which speaks to the growing nuisance and concern. Looked at distribution: looks very similar to how hydrilla spread (S to NE, moving W) these plants seem to surround the country then moves inward. Many of the species that started this way are now causing problems. Noted that it was well-established in 11 years in New York. Problems in NY, so it could likely be a problem in WI.

7 – Very good mosquito habitat. That fact may make the public amenable to regulation. Master water gardener says it overwinters just fine in his garden, did not spread because dry land all around, but was sure it would spread if there was wet ground around the area. If this does get out and spread, it would be very bad for the DNR - it is a milfoil, they knew about it, why didn't they stop it??

8 – Overwintering is a question. What will we need to do if it is getting killed during the winter, how much control will we really need to invest? Can't foresee this as being a big problem.

10 – We've grown this outside as well, but we have had trouble keeping it outside in the winter. We keep it inside ok, but have not had success outdoors. Others report success. This is a very intriguing plant for the water gardening industry. Two types: red type is more commonly an aggressive grower. This plant is all over, it is sold in water gardening. If not recorded, that means it's not recorded in natural systems.