V2.0 February 2020

Wild about Jersey

Pondwatch JE

- a new scheme for surveying Jersey's pondlife

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Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

JARG

States of Jersey

THE JERSEY BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

amphibian and reptile conservation

Identifying Invasive Non-Native Plants

Resources

GB non-native species secretariat (http://www.nonnativespecies.org)

Includes **Species Identification sheets** and an **E-learning** course (*Module 2b. Identification of Invasive Freshwater Plants*).

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*)

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GB non-native species secretariat

Key ID Features

Usually green but often has a reddish tinge and can be completely red when exposed to stresses

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*)

Forms dense mats but can also be present as a few fronds amongst emergent or other floating vegetation

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*)

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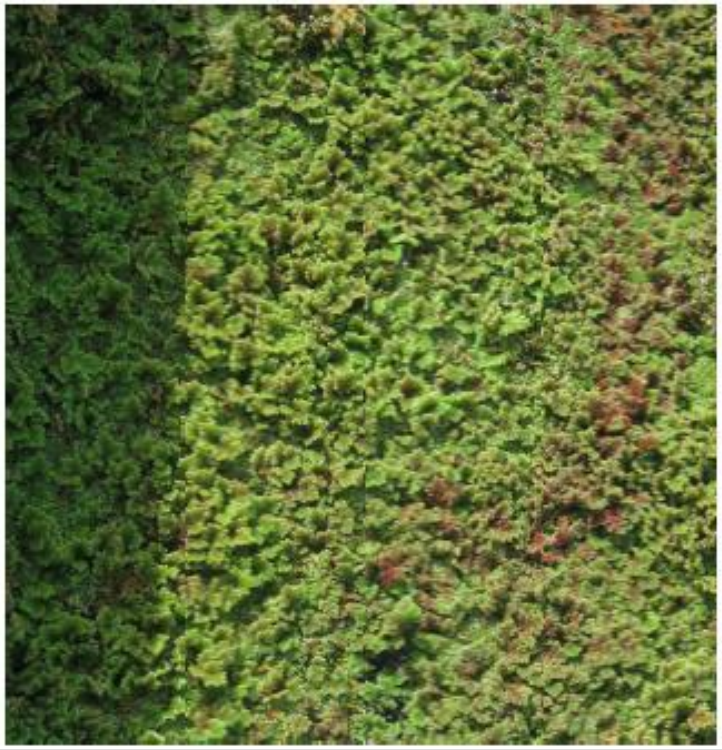
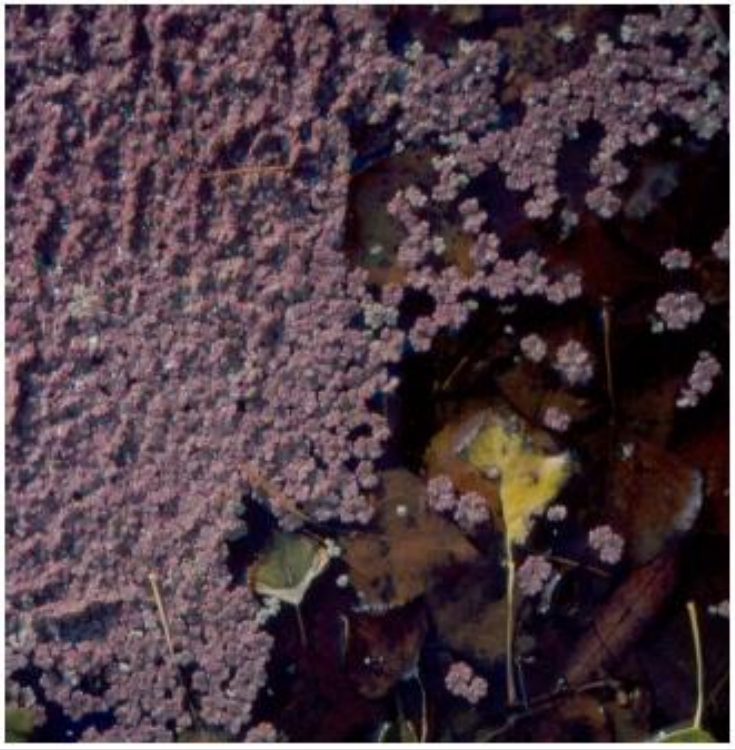
Identification throughout the year

Plants can be present year round, but often die back in winter. Colour can vary considerably through the year. Green in spring/ summer often turns red during cold weather in autumn/winter.

Green form



Red form



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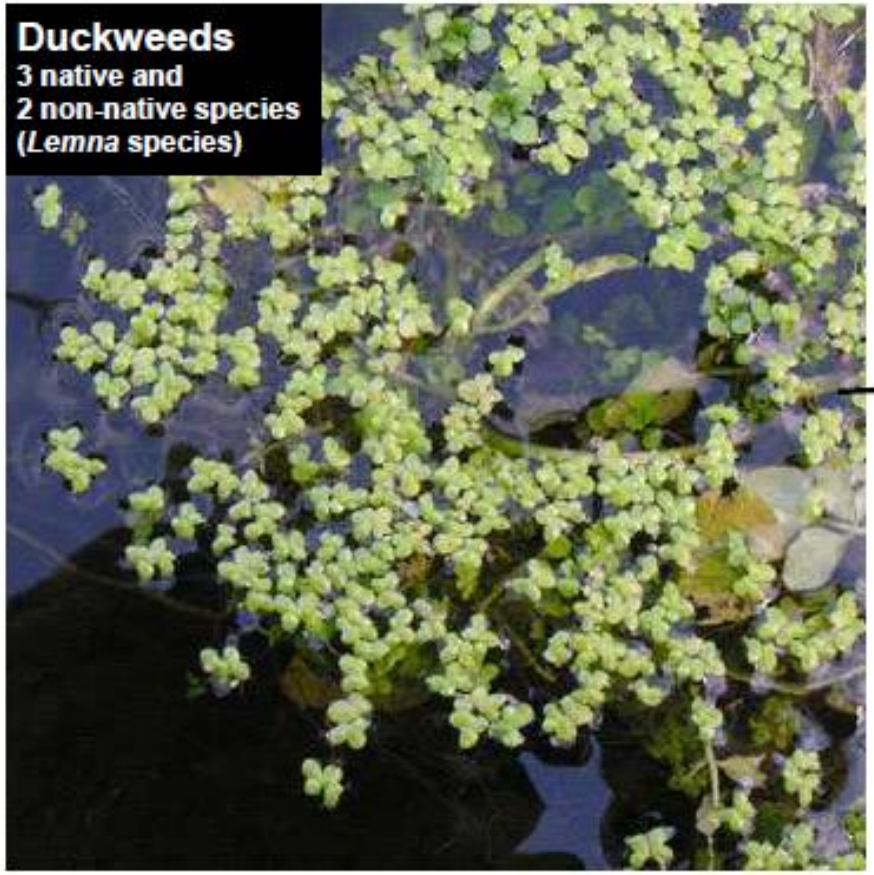
Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*) – similar species



Common Duckweed
Native
(*Lemna minor*)

Light green colour

Smaller than water fern (only 1.5 - 4mm across)

Single round leaves, not branched

1cm

White to light green root attached to each leaf

Pondwatch...JE

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*) – similar species

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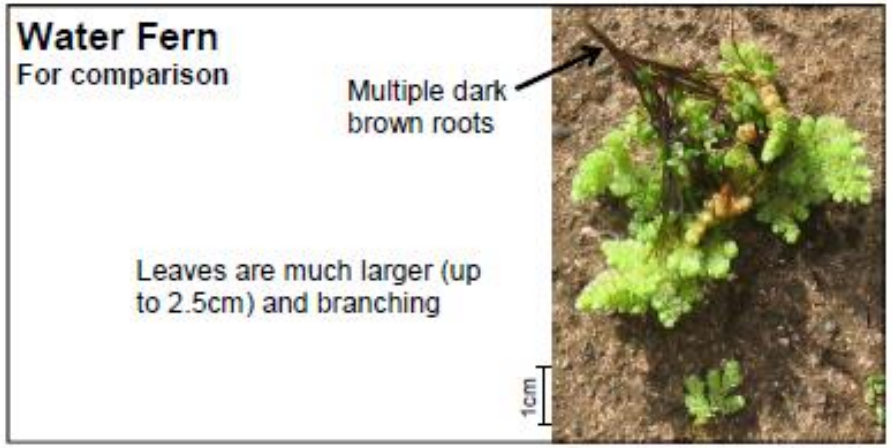

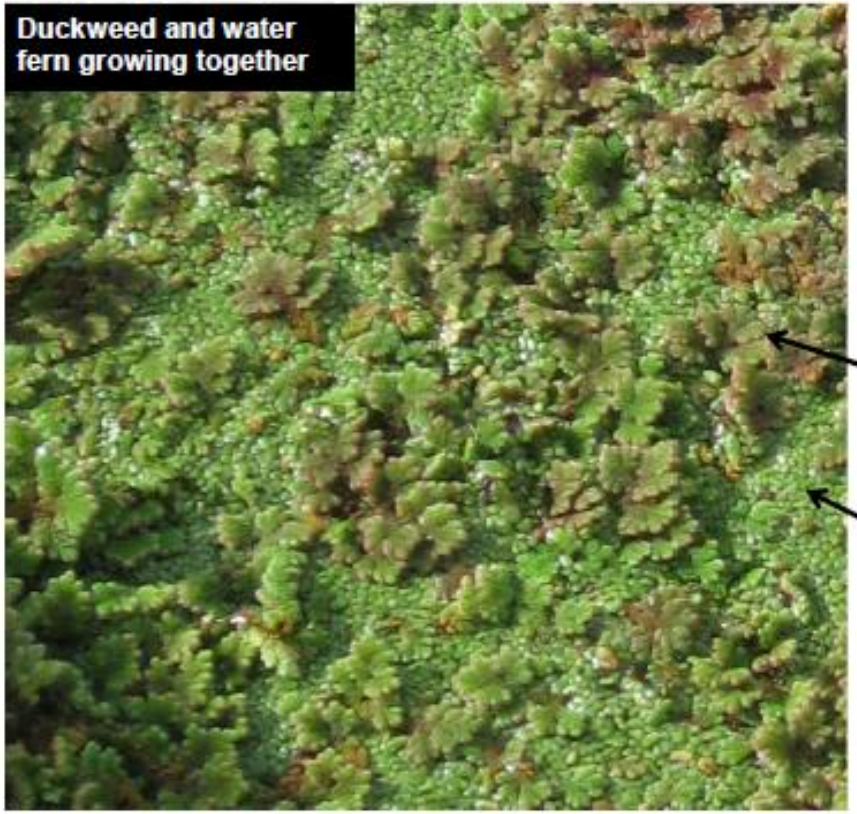

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New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii)*

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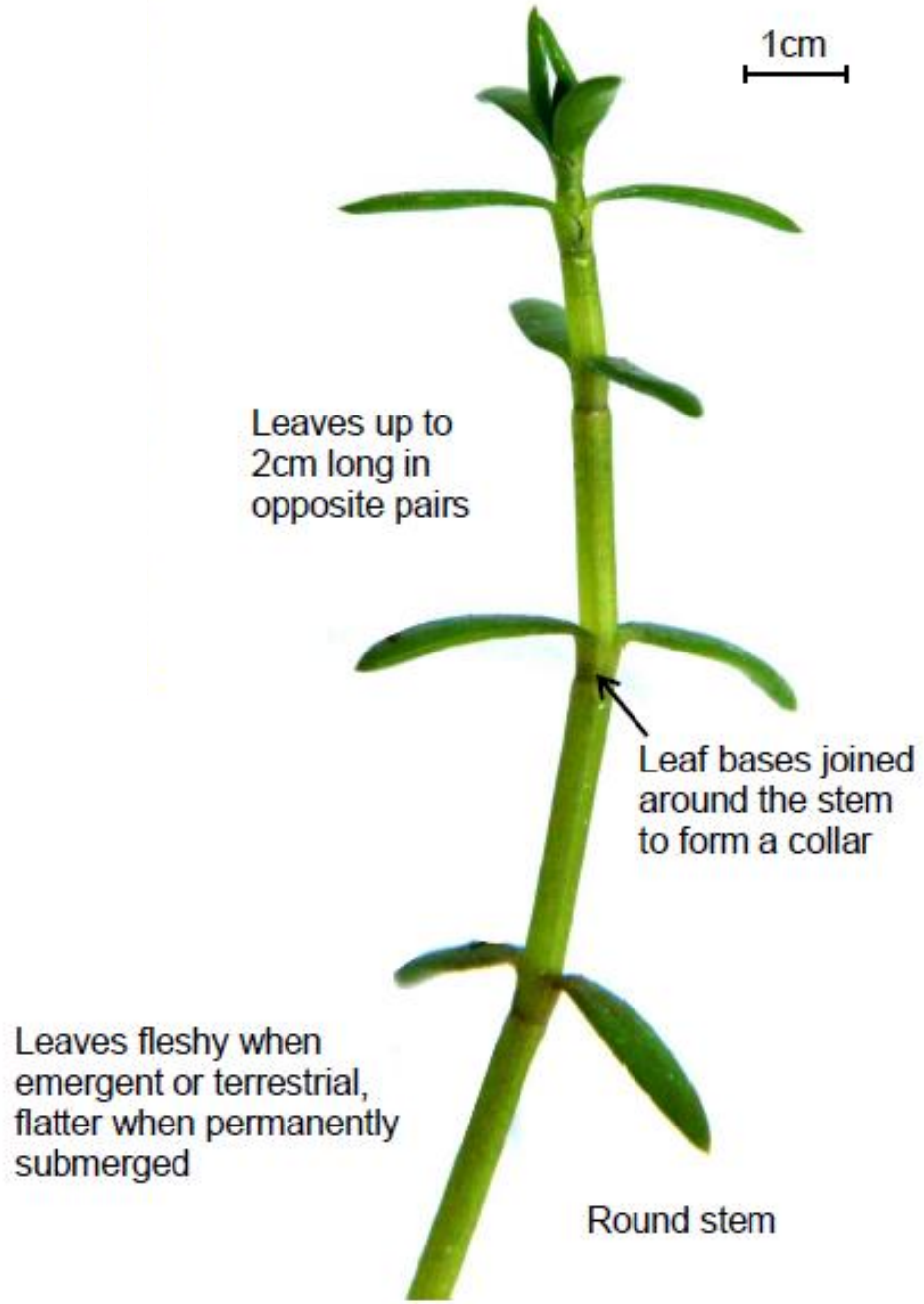
Key ID Features

Forms dense mats within the water body

- Forms dense mats within the water body
- Flowers very small, often absent, whitish-green to slightly pink
- Flowers have 4 petals

New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii)*



- Leaves up to 2 cm long in opposite pairs
- Leaf bases joined around the stem to form a collar
- Leaves fleshy when emergent or terrestrial, flatter when permanently submerged
- Round stem

New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii)*

Identification of different forms

- *Terrestrial (left)*: Growing away from water's edge or left stranded as water level falls, creeping stems and aerial, fleshy leaves.
- *Emergent (middle)*: Densely packed leaves in water, intermediate between terrestrial and submerged form (occurs in water <0.6m deep.)
- *Submerged (right)*: Elongated stems with leaves sparse and flat, able to form extensive mats on bed of water body.

New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii)* – similar species

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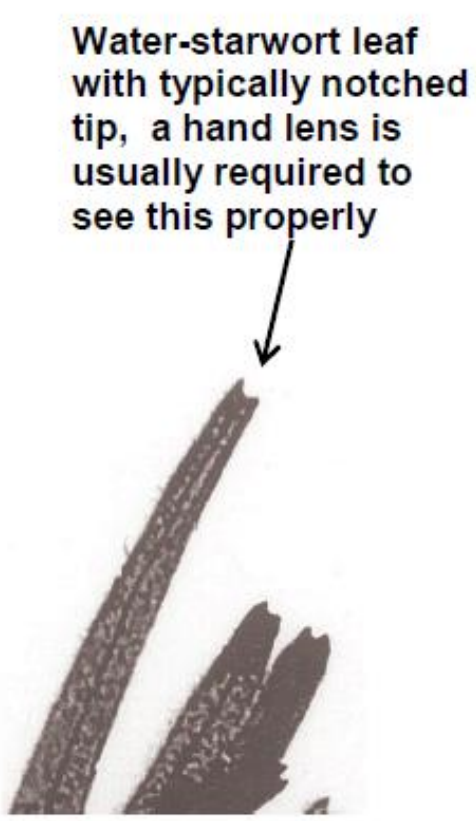
A group of species known as water-starworts are most likely to be confused with New Zealand pigmyweed. Water-starworts are distinguished from New Zealand pigmyweed by their non-fleshy leaves, which are usually notched at the tip (hold up to light or use hand lens), and lack of collar at leaf base.



New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii)* – similar species

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New Zealand pigmyweed collar around stem at base of leaves

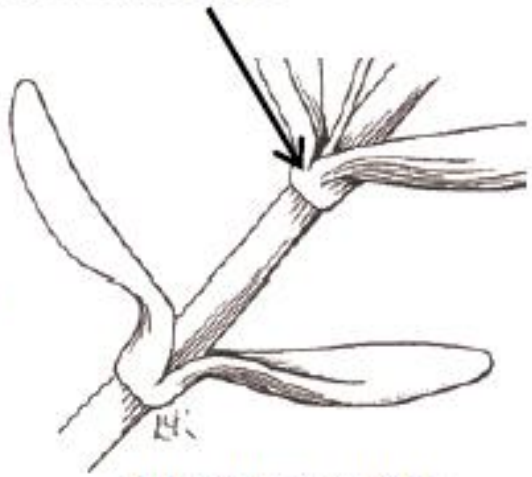

Illustration from IFAS, Centre for Aquatic Plants, University of Florida, Gainesville 1990

Fleshy leaves without notched tips

Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis)*

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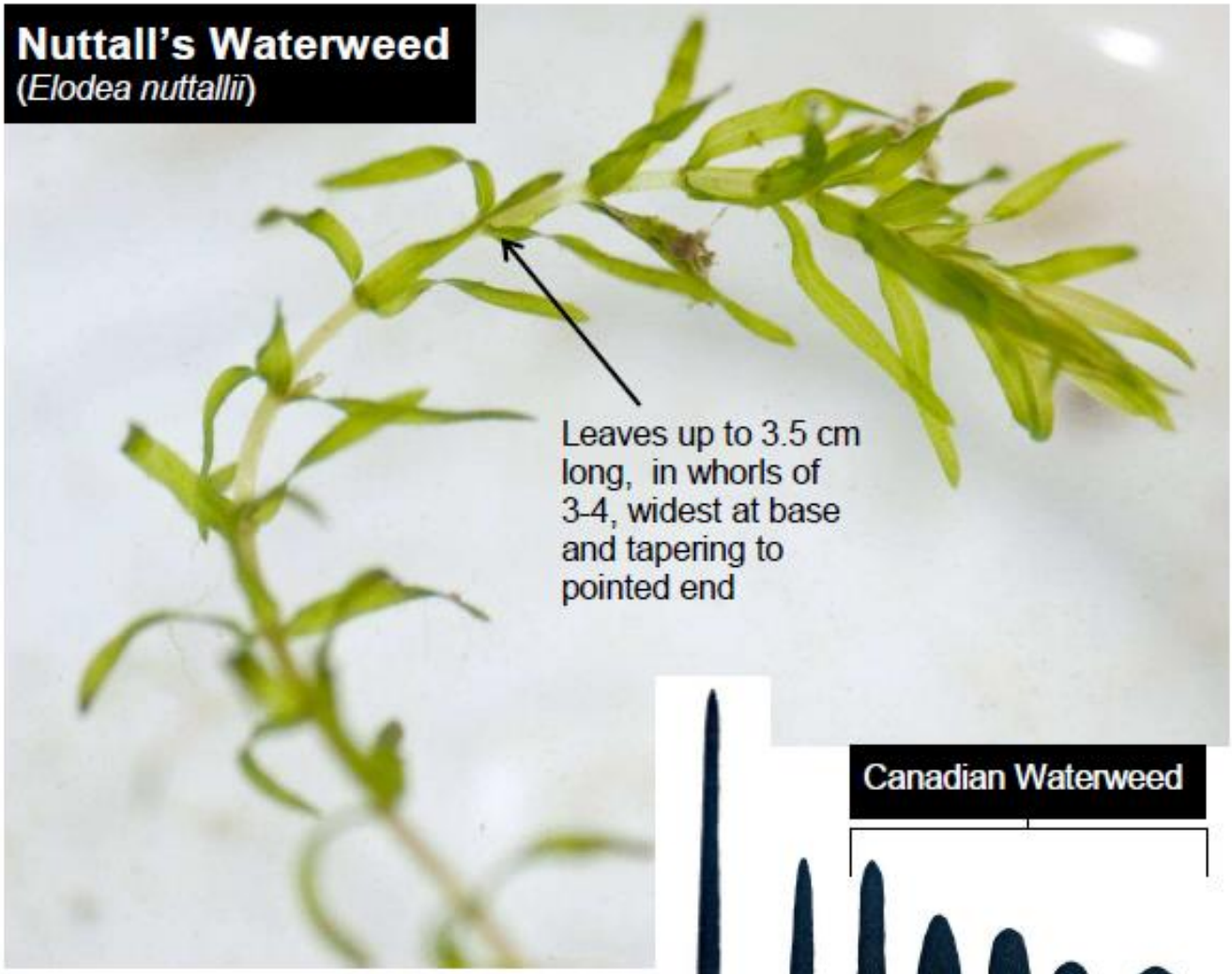
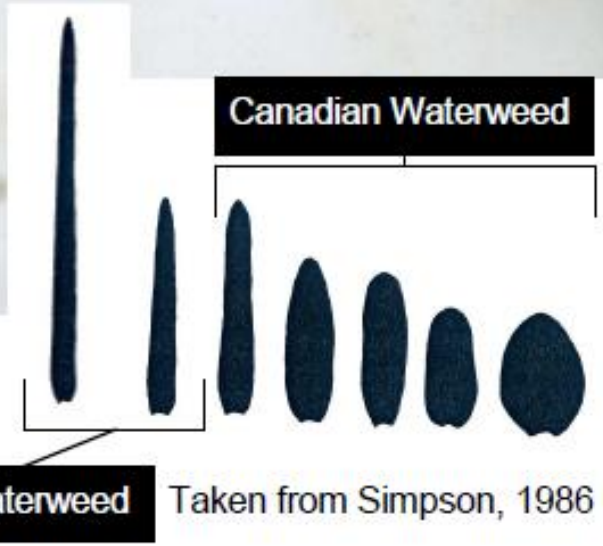
- Flowers are small and inconspicuous and petals white or white tinged with red and borne on end of very long fine stalk.

Pondwatch...JE

Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*) – *similar species*





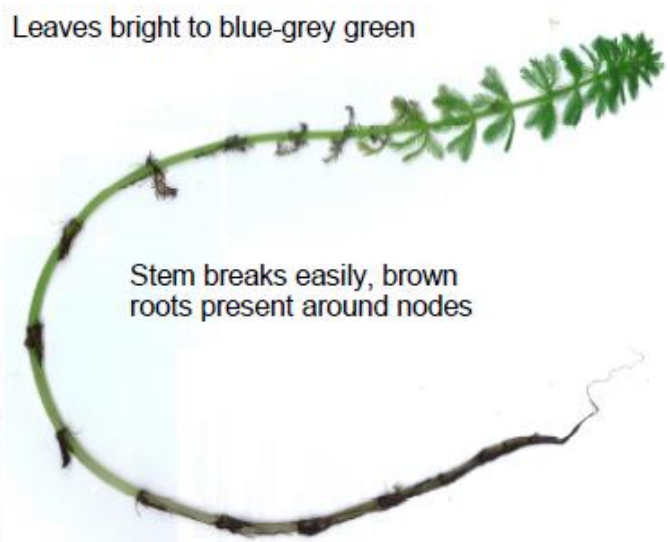
Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis)* – *similar species*

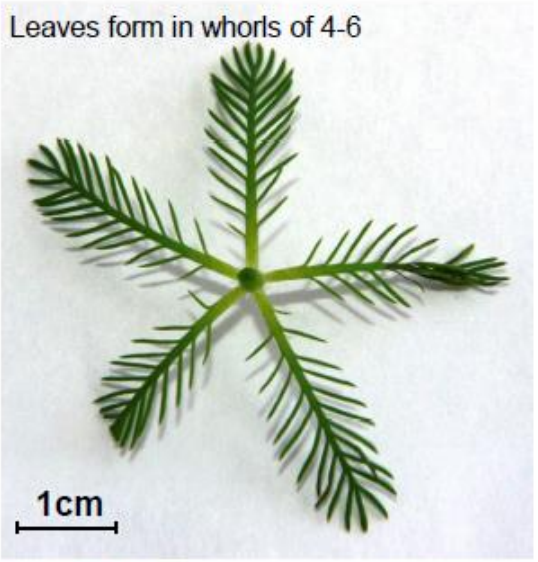
Curly waterweed (*Lagarosiphon major*) – non-native

- Lower leaves spiraled at base, not in whorls.
- Leaves to 3 cm long.
- Flowers inconspicuous, with reddish petals.

Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

- Changes form depending on the conditions, varying between submerged to emergent foliage.
- Both forms are similar in appearance
- Emergent leaves are stiff, bright green and the most distinctive form.
- Submerged leaves are more fragile and, after death, decompose quickly.

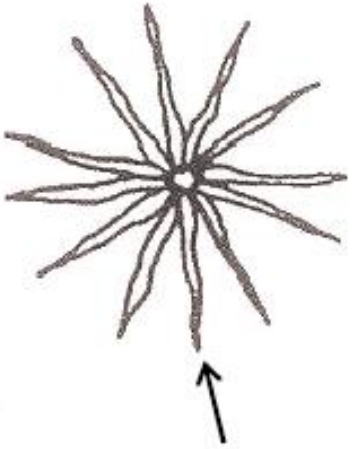




Forms inconspicuous flowers at base of leaves between May and August. Small (2mm) and white. Can be difficult to see.

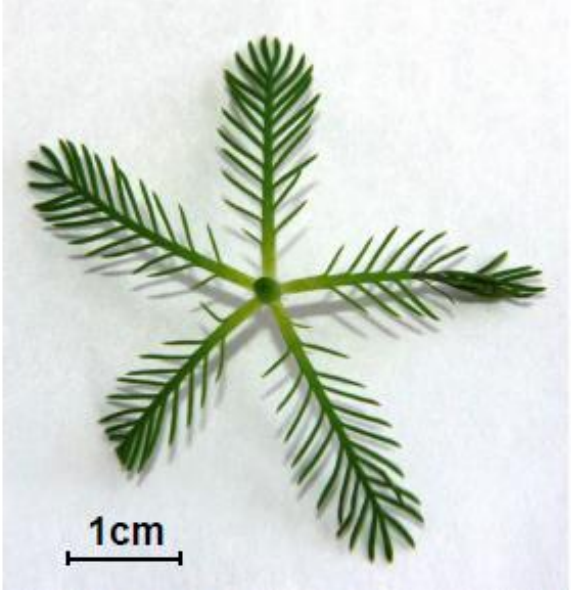
Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) – similar species

Mares Tail
Native
(*Hippuris vulgaris*)



Leaves not divided

Parrot's Feather
(and other *Myriophyllum* species)
For comparison



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