

**PRISM**  
(New York Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management)  
**NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

PRISM: Adirondack Park Invasive Program

Scientific name: Myriophyllum spicatum L.      USDA Plants Code: MYSP2  
 Common names: Eurasian watermilfoil  
 Native Distribution: Eurasia  
 Date Assessed: 26 January 2012; revised 2015  
 PRISM Assessors: Meghan Johnstone and Erin Vennie-Vollrath  
 PRISM Reviewers: Leigh Walrath, Meg Modley, Cathy McGlynn, Steve Young  
 Date Approved: 20 April 2016      Form version date: 13 April 2009  
 New York Relative Maximum score: 100.00      Date NY assessment approved: 23 June 2008  
 New York State Invasive Rank: Very High

**SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:**

**Distribution:** Widespread

**Estimated number of infested sites:** 60

**PRISM Invasiveness Rank<sup>s</sup>:** Very High



**A. DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE (KNOWN/POTENTIAL):**

1. What is the species distribution and abundance in the PRISM?

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| A. Not present   | Not Present |
| B. Occurs in three or fewer natural areas (locations that are at least ¼ mile apart) with no infested area* >1 acre or containing >100 individuals | Restricted  |
| C. Present in 4–10 natural areas, or with one occupied location >1 acre or containing >100 individuals   | Common      |
| D. Present in >10 minimally managed areas  | Widespread  |
| U. Unknown   | Unknown     |

Answer: Widespread

**Describe distribution:**

Known to be present in at least 60 water bodies in the Adirondack PRISM: Augur Lake, Bartlett Pond, Brant Lake, Butternut Pond, Chateaugay Lake (Lower, Narrows, Upper), Chazy Lake, Copperas Pond, Daggett Pond, Deer River Flow, Eagle Lake (Essex - Ticonderoga), East Caroga Lake, First Pond (Saranac Chain), Fish Creek Ponds, Floodwood Pond, Follensby Clear Pond, Franklin Falls Flow, Fulton Chain Lakes (Fifth, Fourth, Second, Seventh, Sixth), Great Sacandaga Lake, Hadlock Pond, Highlands, Forge Lake, Horseshoe Pond (Franklin - Duane), Indian Lake (Franklin), Kiwassa Lake, Lake Algonquin, Lake Champlain, Lake Colby, Lake Flower, Lake George, Lake Luzerne, Lincoln Pond, Little Colby Pond, Little Square Pond, Long Pond (Echo Lake - Essex County), Loon Lake (Warren County), Mayfield Lake, Meacham Lake, Mead Reservoir, Minerva Lake, Mountain View Lake, North Pond, Oseetah Lake, Paradox Lake, Patterson Reservoir, Putnam Pond, Lower Saranac Lake, Middle Saranac Lake, Upper Saranac Lake, Schroon Lake, Second Pond (Saranac Chain), Square Pond, Taylor Pond, Titus Lake, Union Falls Flow, and West Caroga Lake.

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Sources of information:  
Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program 2015

§Not Assessable: not persistent in the PRISM, or not found outside of cultivation.

\*Definition of “infested area” is the “...actual or percentage of land occupied by [canopy cover of] weed plants” NAWMA (North American Weed Management Association) 2002. North American Invasive Plant Mapping Standards (see <http://www.nawma.org/>).

2. What is the likelihood the species will occur (if not yet present) or expand its distribution and abundance (if already present) in the PRISM?

Answer: Very likely

Documentation (e.g.: history of establishment in PRISM, suitability of habitats and climate, distribution models, literature, expert opinions):

Species occurs throughout New York State and the U.S. in waterways.

"Vegetative spread of Eurasian watermilfoil by stem fragmentation and stolon formation is thought to be the major means of both intra- and interlake dispersal. Fragments are the predominant means of dispersal over longer distances and are probably also the most important means by which Eurasian watermilfoil colonizes new habitats. Within lakes and river systems, fragments are readily dispersed by water currents. The frequency of fragment transport between lakes by various mechanisms is not known but human activities, such as recreational boat traffic, are believed to be one of the most important means of dispersal."

Sources of information:

Smith & Barko 1990; U.S.D.A. 2008; Weldy et al. 2015

### B. INVASIVENESS RANK IN THE PRISM:

Is the species distribution Widespread or Common?

Yes: Go to column A in table below.

No: What is the likelihood of species occurrence or expansion? Answer:

- Very Likely:                      Use column A below
- Moderately likely:            Use column B below
- Unlikely:                            Use column C below
- Zero likelihood                 Invasive potential Insignificant
- Unknown                            Invasive potential Unknown
- Not assessed                      Invasive potential not assessed

Assign a PRISM invasiveness rank to the species based on its New York Relative Maximum Score, using the designated column in the table below.

| New York Relative Maximum Score | New York Invasiveness Rank | A  | B   | C   |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----|-----|-----|
| > 80.00                         | Very High                  | VH | H   | M   |
| 70.00–80.00                     | High                       | H  | M   | L   |
| 50.00–69.99                     | Moderate                   | M  | L   | Ins |
| 40.00–49.99                     | Low                        | L  | Ins | Ins |

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|        |               |                       |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <40.00 | Insignificant | Ins      Ins      Ins |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------|

**Column used: A (Insert PRISM Invasiveness Rank on page 1)**

**References for species assessment:**

Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program. 2015. Distribution of Lakes Monitored and Aquatic Invasive Species in the Adirondack PRISM, 2015. Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program. Keene Valley, New York.

Smith, C. and Barko, J. 1990. Ecology of Eurasian Watermilfoil. *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* 28: 55-64.

United States Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service. 2008. The PLANTS Database. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana [Accessed 26 Jan 2012].

Weldy, Troy, David Werier, and Andrew Nelson. 2015 New York Flora Atlas. [S. M. Landry and K. N. Campbell (original application development), USF Water Institute. University of South Florida]. New York Flora Association, Albany, New York. <http://newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/> [Accessed 26 Jan 2016].

**Citation:** This ranking form for regions within NYS may be cited as: Jordan, M.J., G. Moore and T.W. Weldy. 2008. Invasiveness ranking system for non-native plants of New York. Unpublished. The Nature Conservancy, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY; The Nature Conservancy, Albany, NY. Note that the order of authorship is alphabetical; all three authors contributed substantially to the development of this protocol.

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