

# *Salvinia molesta*

## GIANT SALVINIA

### Salviniaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

**FLEPPC Category:** -

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No

**IFAS Assessment**

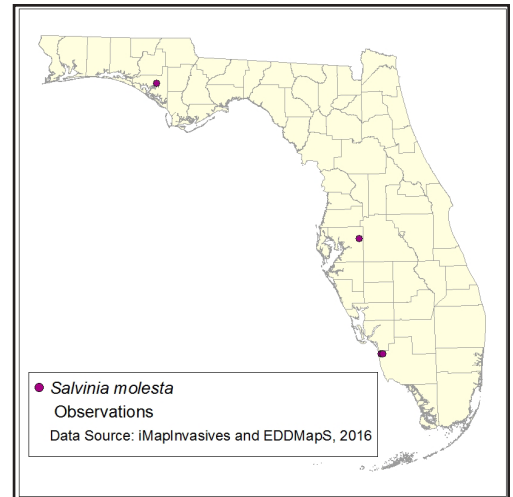
North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 8a-11

**Growth Habit:** Floating Aquatic

Herb

**Origin:** Brazil



Robert Vid&#233;ki, 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](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.