**Azolla pinnata**  
**FEATHERED MOSQUITOFERN**  
**Azollaceae**

Common Synonyms: *Azolla imbricata*

---

**Florida Introduction Date:** Earliest Florida specimen vouchered in 2008.  
**Control Methods:** .  
. Biological: There was some success in management of *A. pinnata* using weevils in South Africa although the study was aimed primarily at *Azolla filiculoides*.  

**Useful Resources:**  

**Comments:** It has the ability to survive on moist soil in and around rivers, ditches, and ponds which may allow the plant to survive low water levels and periods of drought. (NC Aquatic Fact Sheet)

---

**Description:** Leaves minute, 1-2 mm long, overlapping in 2 ranks, upper lobe green, brown green or reddish, lower lobe translucent brown. The leaves often have a maroon-red tinge and the water can appear to be covered by red velvet from a distance. The upper surface of the leaves are totally water-repellant, and if completely submerged the plants quickly refloat with the right side up. Overall, roughly triangular in shape, the basal branches becoming pinnate. Roots with fine lateral rootlets.

**Habitat:** freshwater ponds and swamps

---

**FLEPPC Category:** -  
**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No  
**IFAS Assessment**  
- North PROHIBITED  
- Central PROHIBITED  
- South PROHIBITED  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 11  
**Growth Habit:** Free-floating aquatic fern  
**Origin:** Asia  

---

*Azolla pinnata*  
Feathered Mosquitofern  
Azollaceae  

**Common Synonyms:** *Azolla imbricata*  

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 11  
**Growth Habit:** Free-floating  
**Origin:** Asia  

---

*David Nicholls, dcnicholls.com, Bugwood.org*  

---

This report generated by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory - www.fnai.org - August 2018