

*Potamogeton crispus*

# Curlyleaf Pondweed

Potamogetonaceae, the pondweed family  
Category: CONTAINMENT



## Diagnostic Characteristics

- Submerged perennial; sprouts late in fall and can grow throughout winter
- Leaves are slightly translucent, stiff, have wavy margins, and are 3 inches long to 0.5 inches wide
- Flowers are small, brown, arranged on a terminal spike, and occur in the summer to early fall
- Seeds are flat with a pointy beak; unclear if viable
- Roots produce 0.25-0.75 inch turions in midsummer

## Background

- Native to Eurasia
- Inhabits deep and shallow waters of rivers, lakes, ponds, canals; can tolerate fresh or slightly brackish water
- Reproduces by fragments and turions; high germination and viability rate of turions
- Decreases diversity; disrupts recreation
- decaying plant material can decrease oxygen levels

Photo Credit:

UGA5269050 - Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

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