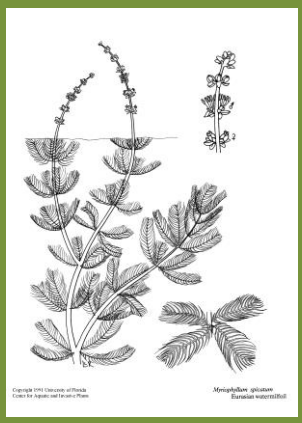
Myriophyllum spicatum

Eurasian Watermilfoil

Other common names:
spike watermilfoil, Eurasian milfoil, milfoil

Haloragaceae, the watermilfoil family
Category: CONTROL



Diagnostic Characteristics

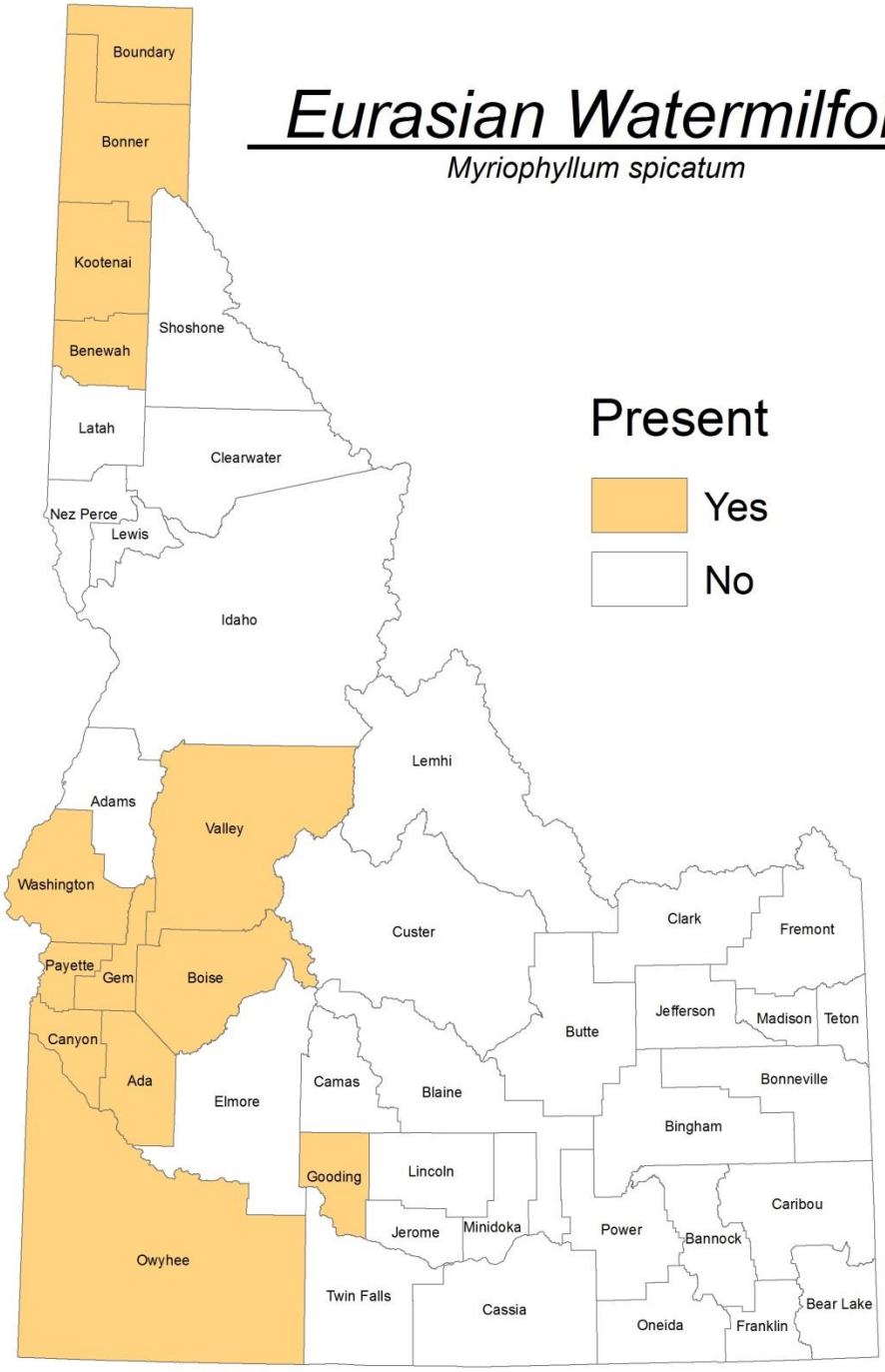
- Submersed perennial with feather-like leaves
- Leaves are arranged around the stem in whorls of 4
- Leaves generally have 12 or more leaflet pairs (northern watermilfoil usually has fewer than 12 leaflet pairs)
- Leaves typically limp when removed from the water
- Flowers are minute, pink, and arranged in whorls on reddish spikes that stand above the water surface
- Plant stems below flowering spike double in thickness

Background

- Native to Eurasia and Northern Africa; introduced as an aquarium plant
- Inhabits ponds, lakes, streams, canals, and ditches
- Reproduces primarily by plant fragments
- Forms dense mats of vegetation on the water's surface
- Out-competes native vegetation, impedes navigations, and recreation

Photo Credit:

Idaho State Department of Agriculture


Eurasian Watermilfoil
Myriophyllum spicatum
Present
Yes
No
Boundary
Bonner
Kootenai
Benewah
Shoshone
Latah
Clearwater
Nez Perce
Lewis
Idaho
Lemhi
Adams
Valley
Washington
Custer
Clark
Fremont
Payette
Gem
Boise
Jefferson
Madison
Teton
Butte
Canyon
Ada
Elmore
Camas
Blaine
Bonneville
Bingham
Gooding
Lincoln
Caribou
Jerome
Minidoka
Power
Bannock
Owyhee
Twin Falls
Cassia
Oneida
Franklin
Bear Lake