

FANWORT

Cabomba caroliniana

Cabombaceae, the water shields and fanwort family

Category: EDRR

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FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- Fanwort is a submerged aquatic plant that is extremely productive allowing it to form large, dense mats within waterbodies.
- It can crowd out and displace native species, reducing ecosystem biodiversity, and infestations may impede recreational activities as well as negatively impact water delivery and the economy.

Description

- Submerged aquatic perennial.
- Stems can reach 30 ft. in length.
- Fan-shaped leaves are submerged and finely divided, occasional oval leaves form at waters surface.
- Small flowers range from white, yellow, or pink to purplish.
- Produces fragile rhizomes that can easily break into fragments and regenerate into full plants.

Introduction and Movement

- Fanwort is native to the southern U.S and South America and was likely introduced through the release of aquaria contents into waterways.
- Inhabits shoreline areas of ponds, lakes, and ditches and can reproduce through fragmentation allowing dispersal through recreational activities as well as improper water garden content disposal.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify Fanwort and report any sightings.
- Always research aquarium plants before purchasing.
- Never release aquarium contents or water garden species into surface waters and dispose of unwanted vegetation by burning, composting, or drying out completely.
- When boating, make sure to clean off any vegetative materials when leaving each waterbody and before launching into another.
- Always Remember To: **KNOW WHAT YOU GROW**

DON'T LET IT LOOSE & CLEAN & DRAIN & DRY

Sources

- CABI Invasive Species Compendium: <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/107743>
- Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho: <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL816.pdf>.



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Shaun Winterton, Aquarium and Pond Plants of the World, Edition 3, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org



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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: INVASIVESPECIES.IDAHO.GOV
TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES IN IDAHO, PLEASE CALL 1-877-336-8676.

FANWORT DISTRIBUTION MAP



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