Handout 6—Survey: Invasive Species—Aquatic Plants

Check the survey area for the following invasive species. For more information about Texas invasive species, visit <texasinvasives.org>.

### Submerged

- **Hydrilla**
  - Dark-green plant with long branching stems.
  - Leaves have toothed margins and midrib spines.
  - Flowers are inconspicuous and white on long stalks.

- **Parrotfeather milfoil**
  - Reddish-brown stems and olive-green leaves divided into feather-like segments.
  - Often extends above the water surface approximately 10 centimeters.

### Emergent

- **Alligator weed**
  - Perennial plant with leaves approximately 10 cm long.
  - Each leaf is long, narrow, and elliptical.
  - White, clover-like flowers appear near the tip of the plant.

### Floating

- **Giant salvinia**
  - Green aquatic fern with a chain-like appearance that can form dense floating mats.
  - Each leaf (frond) is approximately 13 millimeters wide and 25 mm long.
  - The upper surface of the leaf contains coarse, white hairs.
  - Underwater are brown, thread-like leaves that resemble roots.

- **Water hyacinth**
  - Free-floating plant with spongy stems and light-blue (or even violet) flowers.
  - Beneath the plant are numerous dark, fibrous roots.
  - The plant is dark green and ranges from 10 cm to almost 1 meter high.

- **Water lettuce**
  - Plant with floating leaves that are thick, hairy, ridged, and light green.
  - Resembles an open head of lettuce.