

Invasive Plant Notes and Haiku Project

First go to this website

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/seagrant/aquinv.html>

and choose one of the following TOP 23 Invasive Weeds (listed below). **Take ½ pages of notes. Then compose a haiku about this plant. Due November 26**, in time for me to submit your poetry to a contest. (See below.)

1. Butomus umbellatus - flowering rush Cabomba
caroliniana - fanwort
2. Caulerpa taxifolia - caulerpa marine alga
3. Egeria densa - Brazilian elodea, Brazilian waterweed
4. Eichhornia crassipes - water hyacinth
5. Hydrilla verticillata - hydrilla, water-thyme
6. Hydrocharis morus-ranae - European frog's-bit
7. Hygrophila polysperma - East Indian hygrophila, Indian
swampweed
8. Ipomoea aquatica - water spinach, swamp cabbage
9. Iris pseudacorus - yellow flag, pale yellow iris
10. Lagarosiphon major - African elodea
11. Limnophila sessiliflora - ambulia, Asian
marshweed
12. Lythrum salicaria - purple loosestrife
13. Melaleuca quinquenervia - melaleuca
14. Myriophyllum aquaticum - parrot feather
15. Myriophyllum spicatum - Eurasian water milfoil
16. Nymphoides peltata - yellow floating heart
17. Panicum repens - torpedograss
18. Pistia stratiotes - water lettuce
19. Potamogeton crispus - curlyleaf pondweed, curly
pondweed
20. Salvinia molesta - giant salvinia, Kariba-weed
21. Solanum tampicense - wetland nightshade
22. Spartina alterniflora - salt marsh cordgrass,
saltwater cordgrass
23. Trapa natans - water chestnut

I would like to compile some creative and light-hearted Invasive Weed Haiku, which will be incorporated into an upcoming Wildland Weeds article, published by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council - a fun way of dispersing our feelings about our least-loved weeds to kindred spirits on the east coast.

The "best" haiku, as judged by a five-member national panel of your IPC/EPPC peers, will receive special recognition and a gift from an Council other than your own (to promote "cross-fertilization" of course).

Reminders:

- 1) Traditional haiku consisted of a pattern of 5, 7, 5 syllables
- 2) Submit as many haiku as you'd like - there is no limit
- 3) The focus is invasive plants, but invasive fauna haiku are also welcome.
- 4) Deadline: Friday, November 30th.

Please submit your clever entries to Cheryl McCormick at
<<mailto:cmccormick@slconservancy.org>> by Friday, November 30th.

Invasive Haikus, 2007-08

Wetland Nightshade by Kristine Derby, grade 10

Sprawling stem, orange fruits.
Snagging prickles kill small trees.
Nightshade, so unjust.

Very invasive by Evan Clark, grade 10

Prickly and dangerously
Creeping cautiously.

Purple Loosestrife by Joe Lay, grade 10

Likes to have wet feet
Prolonged flowering season
Ruins waterfowl homes.

Purple Loosestrife by Zoë Livelybrooks, grade 10

Abundant food source
Where's your nutrition label?
Ornamental pest!

Proliferater
Herb into the wilderness
Just hot off the shelf

Ecosystem hog
Magenta plant, showy snub
Grows in tight-knit cliques.

Hydrilla David DeHoop, grade 10

Hydrilla's nasty.
Chokes life from lakes, ponds, rivers.
Wish it would go home.

Hydrilla destroys,
Choking vines, tangled motor.
Spread from lake to lake.

Hydrilla verticillata by Kyle Chastain, grade 10

A freshwater herb,
It grows across large bodies
of water, it grows.....

Water Thyme by David DeHoop, grade 10

Sharp leaves, long stemmed vine
Invades, causes destruction
Lakes, ponds streams get choked

Invasive Haikus, 2007-08

Water Hyacinth by Brett Breeding, grade 10

Water hyacinth
Full sun helps it grow in ponds
Grows quickly in sun.

Yellow Floating Heart by Trever Kemp, grade 9

Nymphoides—oh yes
Will not bite us BUT is an
Invasive species

Yellow Floating Heart by Alaura Sevey

Bright yellow flowers
Lakes, ponds, slow moving rivers
Dispersal of seeds.

Parrot Feather by Alaura Sevey, grade 10

Parrot feather's leaves
A colorful blue and green
creeps across water

Brazilian Elodea (*Egeria densa*) by Evan Clark, grade 10

Slyly floating green
Leafy and proudly sitting
On the lake bottom.

Brazilian Pond Weed by Kristine Derby, grade 10

Boo, ate my fish whole.
Pond weed, such silly pond weed.
How *dare* you do so?

Elodea by Alex Ranucci, grade 10

Submerged in water
In streams, two feet tall
So small, so harmful.

Mud Snails by Katheryn Engholm, grade 9

Small blunt brownish snails
Soft or hard, mud or algae
Just takes one to start.

Quagga Mussels by Joe Ott, grade 10

Quagga mussels were
Found in North America
9 of '89

Green Mitten Crab by Trever Kemp, grade 9

Invasive Haikus, 2007-08

Green, not mean or keen
Invades San Francisco Bay
Eats mollusks, sea worms.

Nutria by *Katheryn Engholm, grade 9*

Large herbivore rat
Visible orange teeth, round tail
Destructive eating.

Honeybee Mite by *Justine Cabrera, grade 10*

Like a flat oval
Reddish brown, size of a pinhead
Invasive species

The Honeybee mite
He only has eight small legs
Pest occurs worldwide.