

# BE ON THE LOOK OUT...

## INVASIVE SPECIES ON THE MOVE IN LOUISIANA

INVASIVE SPECIES THREATEN HABITATS  
AND ECOSYSTEMS. INSTEAD OF ADOPTING,  
TRANSPLANTING, OR MOVING THEM,  
REPORT THEIR LOCATIONS  
TO YOUR STATE WILDLIFE AGENCY.



### Cogon Grass

*IMPERATA CYLINDRICAL*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 48 IN & UP TO 1 IN WIDE BLADES, OFF CENTER MID-VEIN, SHARP POINTED BLADE TIPS, WHITE FEATHERY INFLORESCENCE.

**DISPERSION** FROM SE ASIA. IN FL, MS, AL, GA, LA, & SC. SEEDS DISPERSED BY WIND.

PHOTO: A. MURRAY, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CENTER FOR AQUATIC AND IVANSIVE PLANTS

### Purple Loosestrife

*LYTHRUM SALICARIA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 8 FT TALL, MAGENTA FLOWERS, UP TO 50 RIDGED STEMS, FRESHWATER MARSHES.

**DISPERSION** FROM EUROPE. IN 42 US STATES.

PHOTO: M. WALTER, MICHIGAN SEA GRANT AND SEA GRANT NONINDIGENOUS SPECIES WEB SITE



### Black Carp

*MYLOPHARYNGODON PICEUS*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 52 IN & 150 LBS, BROWNISH-BLACK WITH BLACK-GRAY FINS, LONG THIN BODY, CRUSHING TEETH, SIMILAR TO GRASS CARP, LARGE RIVERS AND LAKES, BOTTOM DWELLER.

**DISPERSION** FROM EASTERN ASIA. IN CAPTIVITY IN AR, LA, MO, NC, OK & TX.

PHOTO: LEO G. NICO, USGS NONINDIGENOUS AQUATIC SPECIES WEB SITE



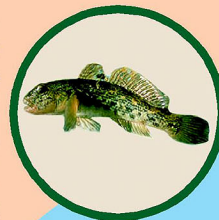
### Round Goby

*NEOGOBIOUS MELANSTOMUS*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 10 IN, FEMALES & IMMATURE MALES GRAY TO BROWN, MATURE MALES ALMOST BLACK, ROUND HEAD WITH PROTRUDING EYES, FUSED PELVIC FINS, AGGRESSIVE, BOTTOM DWELLER.

**DISPERSION** FROM CASPIAN SEA. IN THE GREAT LAKES SPREADING OUT.

PHOTO: SEA GRANT NONINDIGENOUS SPECIES WEB SITE



### Spotted Jellyfish

*PHYLLORHIZA PUNCTATA*

**DESCRIPTION** SIZE OF A BASKETBALL, CLEAR WITH WHITE SPOTS.

**DISPERSION** FROM AUSTRALIA. IN GULF OF MEXICO, US PACIFIC COAST & CARIBBEAN SEA.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MS/AL SEA GRANT



### Asian Clam

*CORBICULA FLUMINEA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 2 IN, YELLOW-GREEN TO BROWN SHELL WITH A DEEP HINGE, THICK CONCENTRIC RINGS, FRESHWATER, SANDY & MUDDY BOTTOMS.

**DISPERSION** FROM ASIA & AFRICA. IN W & SE US STATES.

PHOTO: NOEL M. BURKHEAD, USGS NONINDIGENOUS AQUATIC SPECIES WEB SITE

### Brown (Mexihalo) Mussel

*PERNA PERNA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 5 IN, BROWN SMOOTH, ELONGATED SHELL, SALINITY OF 15-50 PPT, 18-30°C.

**DISPERSION** FROM TROPICAL TO SUBTROPICAL REGIONS OF THE ATLANTIC (S. AMERICA & AFRICA). IN GULF COAST TEXAS.

PHOTO: USGS AND GULF OF MEXICO PROGRAM



### Green Crab

*CARCINUS MAENAS*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 4 IN, COLOR VARIES, UNDERSIDE IS RED OR YELLOW, 5 SPINES ON EITHER SIDE OF EYES.

**DISPERSION** FROM NORTH & BALTIC SEAS. IN SOUTH AFRICA, AUSTRALIA, PACIFIC COAST & NORTH ATLANTIC COAST OF US.

PHOTO: SYLVIA YAMADA, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY



### Marine Swimming Crab

*CHARYBDIS HELLERII*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 20 IN, GREEN IN COLOR, PURPLE ON DORSAL SIDE OF LEGS, SPINES ON CLAWS, SOFT-BOTTOM AREAS.

**DISPERSION** FROM AUSTRALIA & INDO-PACIFIC OCEAN. IN MEDITERRANEAN SEA, CARIBBEAN SEA, & GULF COAST FLORIDA.

PHOTO: DR. JEFFREY LOTZ, GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY AND GULF OF MEXICO PROGRAM



### Chinese Mitten Crab

*ERIOCHIRUS SINENSIS*

**DESCRIPTION** 3 IN LONG, GRAY-GREEN TO DARK BROWN, HAIRY CLAWS, FRESH TO ESTUARINE, HARDBOTTOM WITH SUBMERGED PLANTS.

**DISPERSION** FROM CHINA. IN EUROPE & GREAT LAKES.

PHOTO: JOHN CHAPMAN, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY



POTENTIAL OR SMALL POPULATIONS OF INVASIVE SPECIES IN LOUISIANA



## Nutria

*MYOCASTER COYPUS*

**DESCRIPTION** 24 IN, DARK BROWN, ROUND ALMOST HAIRLESS TAIL, WEBBING BETWEEN TOES AND LARGE ORANGE INCISORS, GLOBAL FRESHWATER WETLANDS.

**DISPERSION** FROM SOUTH AMERICA. IN 40 US STATES.

PHOTO: LOUISIANA SEA GRANT

## Rio Grand Cichlid

*CICHLASOMA CYANOGLUTTATUM*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 12 IN, 4-6 DARK BLOTCHES ON SIDE, SMALL WHITE & BLUE SPOTS, BLACK BLOTCH ON TAILFIN, SUBTROPICAL & TROPICAL, BOTTOM DWELLER, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM NE MEXICO AND S TEXAS. IN N TX, FL, LA, AZ & IL

PHOTO: USGS NONINDIGENOUS AQUATIC SPECIES WEB SITE



## Grass Carp

*CTENOPHARYNGODON IDELLA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 50 IN, DARK BRONZE BACK, SILVER BELLY, EDGES OF SCALES DARK, GIVE CROSSHATCH APPEARANCE, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM E ASIA. IN 48 US STATES EXCEPT VT & MT.

PHOTO: USGS FLORIDA CARIBBEAN SCIENCE CENTER



## Silver Carp

*HYPOPHTHALMICHTHYS MOLITRIX*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 47 IN, SILVER, MOUTH UP-TURNED, TOOTHLESS, FUSED & SPONGE-LIKE GILL RAKERS, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM CHINA. IN GULF STATES.

PHOTO: LEONARD LOVSHIN, AUBURN UNIVERSITY AND USGS NONINDIGENOUS AQUATIC SPECIES WEB SITE



## Bighead Carp

*HYPOTHTALMICHTHYS NOBILIS*

**DESCRIPTION** 19 LBS, UP TO 28 IN, IRREGULAR BLACK BLOTCHES, SMALL SCALES, BIG HEAD/SHORT BODY, FILTER FEEDER, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM CHINA. IN 19 STATES, MAINLY MISSISSIPPI WATERSHED.

PHOTO: USGS FLORIDA CARIBBEAN SCIENCE CENTER



## Water Hyacinth

*EICHHORNIA CRASSIPES*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 36 IN TALL, LAVENDER FLOWERS, ROUND LEATHERY LEAVES, SPONGY BULBOUS STALK, DARK FEATHERY ROOTS, FLOATING, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM SOUTH AMERICA. IN 35 US STATES.

PHOTO: LOUISIANA SEA GRANT

## Giant Salvinia

*SALVINIA MOLESTA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 1.5 IN FLOATING LEAVES, FOLDED & COMPRESSED IN UPRIGHT CHAINS. LEAF SURFACE WITH UPRIGHT WHITE BRISTLES, VELVET APPEARANCE, FLOATING, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM SOUTH AMERICA. IN AL, AZ, CA, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC & TX.

PHOTO: LOUISIANA SEA GRANT



## Common Salvinia

*SALVINIA MINIMA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 0.5 IN, NEARLY ROUND LEAVES, LIE FLAT, ACCUMULATES MATS. SHADY AREAS, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA. IN 35 US STATES.

PHOTO: LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AGCENTER

## Hydrilla

*HYDRILLA VERTICILLATA*

**DESCRIPTION** LEAVES IN WHORLS, WHITE FLOWERS, SUBMERGED, HYDROSOILS, FRESHWATER WATERWAYS.

**DISPERSION** FROM ASIA. IN GULF & ATLANTIC US STATES PLUS WA, CA, AZ.

PHOTO: DANE DARTZ, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY



## Alligatorweed

*ALTERNANTHERA PHILOXEROIDES*

**DESCRIPTION** OPPOSITE ELONGATED LEAVES, WHITE CLOVER-LIKE FLOWERS, EMERGENT, IN MOIST SOIL TO SHALLOW WATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM SOUTH AMERICA. IN US STATES VA TO TX.

PHOTO: CENTER FOR AQUATIC AND INVASIVE PLANTS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.



## Water Lettuce

*PISTIA STRATIOTES*

**DESCRIPTION** 6 IN, LIGHT GREEN THICK LEAVES, LOOKS LIKE FLOATING HEAD OF LETTUCE, NEEDS TEMPERATURES OF 59°F AND UP.

**DISPERSION** FROM AFRICA. IN FL, WEST TO TX & NORTH TO SOUTH CAROLINA.

PHOTO: CENTER FOR AQUATIC AND INVASIVE PLANTS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.

## Torpedograss

*PANICUM REPENS*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 30 IN, NARROW GRAY-GREEN HAIRY LEAF BLADES, SUBTROPICAL, WET SANDY OR ORGANIC SOILS.

**DISPERSION** FROM AUSTRALIA. IN GULF COAST US STATES TO NC.

PHOTO: CENTER FOR AQUATIC AND INVASIVE PLANTS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.



## Chinese Tallow

*SAPIUM SEBIFERUM*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 40 FT, DECIDUOUS, OVAL LEAF COMES TO A POINT, WET PRAIRIES & BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FORESTS.

**DISPERSION** FROM CHINA. IN US STATES SC TO TX.

PHOTO: VIC RAMEY, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.

## Kudzu

*PUERARIA MONTANA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 100 FT LONG, SEMI-WOODY VINE, ALTERNATING COMPOUND LEAVES IN GROUPS OF THREE, PURPLE FRAGRANT FLOWERS, ANY SOIL TYPE, FOREST EDGES.

**DISPERSION** FROM ASIA. IN SOUTHERN US.

PHOTO: PAM BLANCHARD, LOUISIANA SEA GRANT



## Zebra Mussel

*DREISSENA POLYMORPHA*

**DESCRIPTION** UP TO 2 IN, ALTERNATING DARK AND LIGHT BANDS ON SHELL, CLUSTERS ON SUBMERGED OBJECTS, FRESHWATER.

**DISPERSION** FROM CASPIAN SEA. IN GREAT LAKES & MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

PHOTO: CHARLES RAMCHARAM, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY