

Cornell Aquatic Plant Specimen ID Lab

INSTRUCTIONS

The goal of the Cornell Aquatic Plant Specimen ID Lab is to improve the management of lake and pond shoreline plants in New York through accurate identification of plant specimens and by providing up-to-date management information.

Samples must include, where possible, a complete plant specimen including some or all of the stem, leaves, roots, and flowers and fruits if present. After collecting, gently blot the specimen dry with paper towels and lay out flat on 11"x14" thick, absorbent paper. Spread leaves and flowers open as much as possible. Flatten, and dry the specimen between newspaper and some weights for at least 24 hrs. Bring the specimen on the absorbent paper, a check for \$15.00 made out to Cornell University, along with the following, completed form to:

Cornell Cooperative Extension - Aquatic Plant ID
Attention: R. Schneider
Dept. Natural Resources, Fernow Hall
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853
607-255-2115

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ County: _____

Phone: () _____

Agency and Staff member: _____

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PLANT IDENTIFICATION

Date collected _____

Location of Pond: USGS 1:24,000 Topographic quad map _____

County _____ Lake name (if applicable) _____

Water depth where collected (in feet): _____

Growth form - Attached to substrate Floating in water

Stem protruding above surface Leaves floating on surface

Sediment where collected: rocks, cobbles gravel sandy

clay, silt organic litter mucky

Location of patch: near docks near inflowing stream

other _____

Size of patch of this plant: _____

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POND MANAGEMENT GOALS

Circle **all** current and intended uses for this pond or lake:

drinking water swimming fishing boating attracting wildlife

runoff control from homes livestock watering agricultural runoff control

Other neighbors which also own property along the pond/lake shoreline? yes no

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PONDECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Avg. pond depth _____ Maximum pond depth _____

Pond length _____ Pond width (max) _____ Surface area (acres) _____

Type of water level control structure none dam pipe other _____

Water quality

color: clear greenish brownish

transparency: clear slightly cloudy turbid highly turbid

pH: _____ acid neutral basic

Water residence time:

number of inflowing streams _____

evidence of groundwater seepage _____

Presence of other dominant plants in the pond:

No. of submerged species (all leaves under the surface) _____

No. of emergent species (stems and leaves out of water) _____

No. of floating leaved species _____

Wildlife present in pond:

Fish: (list species) _____

Other wildlife observed: frogs salamanders herons ducks

turtles _____

Surrounding landuse on upslope side of pond:

septic systems livestock pastured lawns forests crops

roads driveways houses

Shoreline gradient: _____% or _____ ft vertical drop per _____ ft horizontal distance



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Plant ID NO. _____

Date received: _____ Date responded: _____

Identified by: _____

Certainty of identification:

_____ definite _____ likely _____ probably _____ unsure _____ can't id

Specimen kept on file: _____

Special notes concerning condition, ability to identify: _____



CORNELL - SPECIMEN IDENTIFICATION

Probable species id. _____

Common plant name _____

Appropriate strategies for removal (see Cornell Pub. # on Aquatic Plant Management for details on the following methods)

Watershed nutrient input control

Manual removal: scimmer rake/scythe dredge harvester

Bottom cloth barriers Chemical shades Barley straw bales

Chemical herbicides Triploid grass carp Insect herbivores