

## Golden alga

### *Prymnesium parvum*

#### Description

First introduced to North America in 1985 with an unknown origin. Extremely toxic .

#### Habit

Microscopic (about 10 micrometer), flagellated alga with 4 morphologically distinct forms. Two forms are bi-flagellated haploid cell types. One form is a bi-flagellated diploid cell type. Another is a non-motile with no flagella (resting stage). Flagellated forms have a haptonema, specialized external needle-like structures that enables attachment to surfaces. They have 2 saddle shaped chloroplasts that are yellow-green to olive in color. Flagella range from 12-15 micrometers and haptonema ranges from 3-5 micrometers.

#### Leaves





## Stems

## Flowers

## Fruits and Seeds

## Habitat

Found worldwide and often associated with estuarine or marine waters as well as brackish ponds.

## Reproduction

## Similar

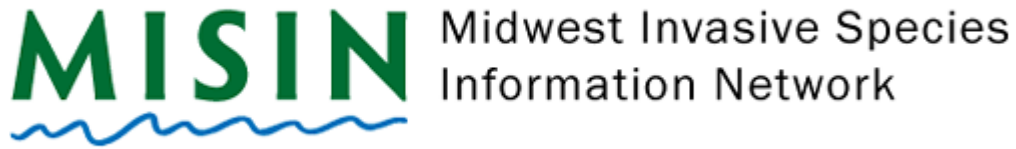
*Prymnesium annuliferum*, *Prymnesium calathiferum*, *Prymnesium faveolatum*, *Prymnesium lepalleurii*, *Prymnesium nemametecum*, *Prymnesium parvum* and *Prymnesium zebrinum*.

## Monitoring and Rapid Response

Landscape-scale reductions in nutrient load and hydrologic changes would be required for management of *P. parvum* blooms. Reduction of ammonium sulfate and other agricultural fertilizers is necessary.

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