

## Dotted duckweed

### *Landoltia punctata*

#### Description

Introduced to North America as an aquarium plant.

#### Habit

Tiny, free-floating aquatic plant comprised of individual fronds that produce fine roots, forms dense mats in stagnant water.

#### Leaves

Fronds appear 1.5 to 2 times longer than wide, with widths measuring from 1-3 (or 5) mm, narrowly egg-shaped to slightly kidney-shaped and intensely green in color, covered with a waxy layer of cuticle that makes plants sparkle in the sunlight. Fronds are not leaves; they may be a reduced form of stem and shoot.

#### Stems

#### Flowers





### **Fruits and Seeds**

Fruits are 0.8-1 mm, laterally winged to apex.

Seeds with 10-15 distinct ribs.

### **Habitat**

Native to Africa and southeast Asia. Grows well in small, quiet, nutrient rich waters such as ponds, ditches, swamps and backwaters; also seasonally intermittent waters.

### **Reproduction**

Vegetative budding of daughter fronds from two pouches at the base of the frond. Daughter fronds often remain attached to the mother frond by a short stipe so that plants often appear as a cluster of several fronds. Rarely reproduces by seed.

### **Similar**

Native giant duckmeat (*Spirodela polyrrhiza*).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Diquat is a widely used and effective herbicide because it causes ion leakage in duckweed and other aquatic plants. May also be controlled by the use of Carfentrazone-ethyl 224g/ha Super (-1). Follow label and state requirements.

### **Credits**

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