



UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension
Center for Aquatic
and Invasive Plants



A product of the Florida
Invasive Plant Education Initiative
plants.ifas.ufl.edu/education

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Field location: _____

Field Notes

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(HS version)



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START HERE: Choose a plant sample at least 10" long. Include roots if possible. Be sure sample has a stem, branch and plenty of leaves to show leaf arrangements, etc. See **Illustrated Glossary of Leaf Shapes** and **Flower Parts** to answer questions.

See *Invasive and Non-native Plants You Should Know--Recognition Cards (or Flash Cards)* as a reference.

Herbaceous plants are plants that are not "woody."

Woody plants are plants that contain lignified tissues (cells with lignin in them); containing woody or wood fibers.

Is the plant (circle answer): **herbaceous** OR **woody** • If it is **woody** is it a: tree shrub vine

If it is **herbaceous**, what is its habit? (Circle best answer) ascending climbing creeping erect sprawling

If it is a vine... Does it climb? _____ What does it use to climb? _____

ROOTS: fibrous taproot tubers bulb corm rhizome (below-ground runner) stolon (above-ground runner)

LEAVES: What is the leaf arrangement (alternate, opposite, whorled, etc.) ? _____

Is there a leaf stalk? _____ Is the leaf simple or divided? _____

If the leaf is simple, what is the shape of the: blade: _____ blade tip: _____ blade base: _____

Is the blade margin (circle answer): smooth toothed

Hairs on top of the blade (circle answer): all over on the veins on the midvein

Hairs on the bottom of the blade (circle answer): all over on the veins on the midvein

Measure largest blade: length = _____ width = _____ Measure smallest blade: length = _____ width = _____

If leaf is divided: once divided twice divided three times divided How many leaflets? _____ Number of leaflets: even odd

Scientific name: _____ Circle one: native non-native invasive



Does your plant sample have FLOWERS? See **Illustrated Glossary of Leaf Shapes/Flower Parts** to answer questions.

See *Invasive and Non-native Plants You Should Know--Recognition Cards (or Flash Cards)* as a reference.

Where is flower located on plant ? (circle answer): tip of branch tip of stem in axils of leaves both

Is flower in a "cluster" or head? _____ (If yes, see "aster family below") If flower is NOT in a cluster: (circle best answer) an individual flower on a stalk

Sepals: how many _____ how long _____ color _____ joined (at any point, partially or wholly) _____

Petals: how many _____ how long _____ color _____ joined (at any point, partially or wholly) _____

Stamens: how many _____ how long _____ filament (stalk) _____ anther (pollen sac) _____

How does pollen exit? _____ Pistil (how many stigmas catch pollen): _____

How many styles (stalk between ovary and stigma): _____ How many lobes in ovary (holds ovules) _____

Aster FAMILY: flowers are in cluster of several, small flowers (a "flowering head")

Does head have BOTH ray and disc flowers? _____ Does head have only ray flowers? _____ Only disc flowers? _____

DISC FLOWER: Number of petals _____ Color _____ Length _____ Width _____

Does tip of fruit have bristles or papery projections? _____ How many? _____

RAY FLOWER: Number of petals _____ Color _____ Length _____ Width _____

Does tip of fruit have bristles or papery projections? _____ How many? _____

Scientific name: _____ Circle one: native non-native invasive

