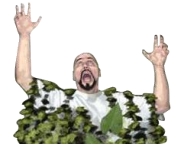


## Module 1 ~ Silent Invaders – National Version

# Keyword Definitions



**Directions:** Use these keywords and definitions when discussing the *Silent Invaders* presentation: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/education>. Also, see Keywords chart.

1. **agricultural** – (adj.) of, or pertaining to, the production of crops or livestock (animals) for food.
2. **aquatic plants** – (n.) plants that live in, on, or under the water.
3. **ballast water** – (n.) water that is pumped into or out of tanks on a ship or boat to provide stability.
4. **biodiversity** – (n.) the variety of plant and animal life in an environment or ecosystem.
5. **contaminant** – (n.) a poisonous or polluting substance that makes a place or substance unsuitable, harmful, or unusable.
6. **competition** – (n.) an interaction between or among living things for resources such as food, water, living space, or shelter.
7. **compost** – (n.) decayed or decaying organic material (such as leaves or food scraps) that turns into a nutrient-rich, soil-like substance that can enrich poor soils.
8. **dispose** – (v.) discard; throw away.
9. **economic harm** – harm or damage to the economy; loss of revenue (money).
10. **emersed plants** – (n.) plants which have roots underwater and leaves and/or flowers above the water.
11. **environmental harm** – damage to an ecosystem or habitat.
12. **evolve** – (v.) to change in genetic composition over generations, through the process of natural selection, mutations, inbreeding, or hybridization.
13. **floating-leaved plants** – (n.) plants with leaves that float on the water's surface; roots are sometimes, but not always, anchored to the bottom.
14. **inspect** – (v.) to look at something carefully; to examine critically.
15. **invasive plant** – (n.) a plant that is not native to an ecosystem that is causing or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.
16. **landscape** (v.) – to make an area of land look attractive by adding trees, shrubs, flowers, or other plants.
17. **native plant** – (n.) a plant that has historically occurred within a geographic region or area; it has not been introduced from another geographic region.
18. **non-native plant** – (n.) a plant that is present in a region outside its original, historic range due to intentional or unintentional introduction; not necessarily invasive. Also referred to as non-indigenous or exotic. The introduction of the plant to a new area is often the result of human activity but can also be due to wildlife, wind, or other factors.
19. **outcompete** – (v.) to displace another species in the competition for space, nutrients, sunlight, water, or other necessary natural resources.
20. **prohibit** – (v.) to forbid, often by rules or laws, behaviors or actions that are considered harmful.
21. **reservoirs** – (n.) areas where water is collected and stored.
22. **submersed plants** – (n.) plants that grow with their roots, stems, and leaves completely underwater.
23. **terrestrial plants** – (n.) plants that live on land.
24. **volunteer** – (n.) someone who works for a community for the benefit of a group because they choose to do so (unpaid).



Florida Invasive Plant Education Initiative • <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/education>  
Aquatic Plant Management Society • <http://www.apms.org/>