



## **Giant Salvinia**

(*Salvinia molesta*)

The Colorado Noxious Weed Act requires every land-owner to **eradicate this weed** wherever it is found on his or her property. The Colorado Department of Transportation controls these weeds on its right-of-way.

Giant salvinia is a submersed **AQUATIC** freshwater perennial. It starts as free-floating pieces with leaves. The plant consists of horizontal stems that float just below the water surface. At each node it produces two floating or emergent leaves that are green with rows of white, bristly hairs. The leaves are ovate to oblong in shape. Plants bear a third leaf that is brown, highly divided and dangles underwater.

This plant can densely cover the surface of a lake, preventing oxygen and light from reaching below. More details about this species and herbicides to control it are available online at <http://www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds>.

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