"B" Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant, but may have limited distribution in some counties

Eurasian watermilfoil Myriophyllum spicatum

Other common names: Spike watermilfoil

USDA symbol: MYSP2

ODA rating: B



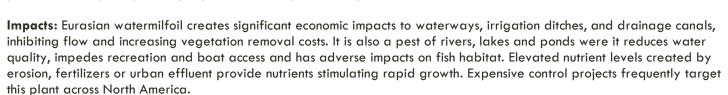
Introduction: EWM is a highly invasive aquatic plant generating large quantities of biomass in lakes and ponds each year. Many water bodies are rendered unusable for fishing, boating and swimming due to EWM invasion. Its widespread distribution has been attributed to aquarium dumping, waterfowl, plant fragments on boats and flood events.

Distribution in Oregon: It is common throughout western Oregon and the Columbia Basin.

Description: Eurasian watermilfoil is a perennial aquatic plant, rooted to the bottom and extending to the surface in shallow lakes and ponds.

Purplish red-branching stems have feather-like leaves in whorls of four at each node. Male flowers are purplish while whitish flowers are female; all projecting about the surface in shallow lakes and ponds.

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Biological controls: One biocontrol agent, the watermilfoil moth, has been approved for this plant.

