

Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)

Description:

Hydrilla is an introduced, submersed aquatic plant and can grow in all water bodies. The plant can grow to 25 feet in length and form dense floating mats along the water surface. It grows extremely fast, about an inch a day, and when it reaches the water surface it can grow horizontally. Hydrilla produces tiny white flowers on long stalks, which are less than 1/4 inch in diameter. Hydrilla has the potential to cover an entire reservoir and restrict fishing, swimming, boating, and other water recreation.



Photograph 5.7: Hydrilla (S.C. Department of Natural Resources)