

*Ipomoea aquatica*

water spinach



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**Appearance:** Herbaceous trailing vine with milky sap. Stems hollow, rooting at nodes, floating in aquatic situations.

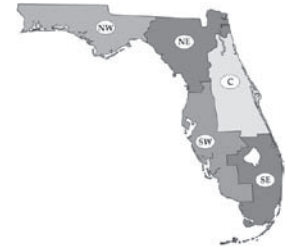
**Leaves:** Alternate, simple, with glabrous petioles 3–14 cm (1–6 in) long; blades generally arrowhead shaped but variable, glabrous or rarely pilose, to 17 cm (7 in) long, with tips pointed; blades held above water when stems floating.

**Flowers:** Showy, funnelform; like morning glory blooms; solitary or in few-flowered clusters at leaf axils; petals white or pink-lilac.

**Fruit:** An oval or spherical capsule, woody at maturity, about 1 cm (0.5 in) wide; holding 1–4 grayish seeds, these often short, hairy.

**Ecological threat:**

Forms dense floating mats of intertwined stems over water surfaces, shading out native submersed plants and competing with native emergents. FLEPPC Category I



**Distribution:** C, SW

**Field Notations**

IPOMAQUA/IPAQ

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