
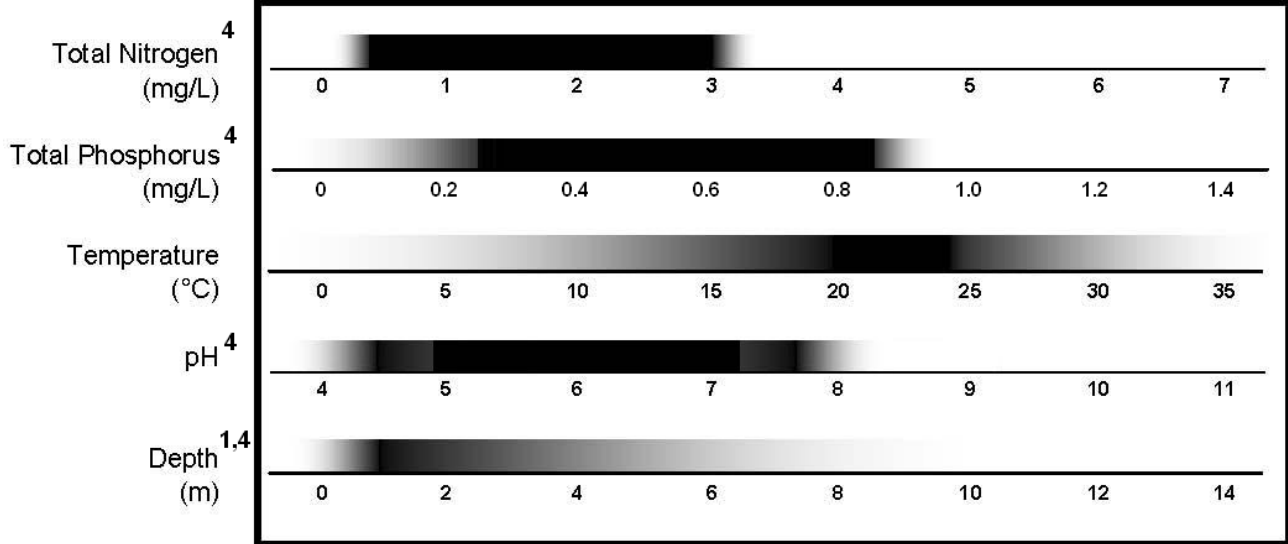


Aquatic Plant Fanwort; Cabomba

I. Current Status and Distribution *Cabomba caroliniana*

| a. Range | Global/Continental | Wisconsin |
|---|--|--|
| Native Range Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Northeast Argentina, Southern U.S. ¹ |  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Figure 1: U.S and Canada Distribution Map²</i></p> | Not recorded in Wisconsin ³ |
| Abundance/Range Widespread: Locally Abundant: Sparse: | Native to southeastern U.S. Invasive in northeastern and western U.S. Michigan | Not applicable Not applicable Not applicable |
| Range Expansion Date Introduced: Rate of Spread: | Native to southeastern U.S. Growth of 50mm per day has been reported in Australia ¹ | Not applicable Not applicable |
| Density Risk of Monoculture: Facilitated By: | High High nutrient water ⁴ | Unknown Unknown |
| b. Habitat | Lakes, reservoirs, ponds, streams, small rivers, ditches, canals, sloughs, low energy systems ^{1,6} | |
| Tolerance | Chart of tolerances: Increasingly dark color indicates increasingly optimal range | |



| | |
|--|--|
| Preferences | Low energy and high nutrient environments; high light conditions; silt substrate; low pH; low calcium ^{1,4,5} |
| c. Regulation | |
| Noxious/Regulated ² : | CA, CT, MA, ME, VT, WA |
| Minnesota Regulations: | <i>Regulated</i> ; One may not introduce without a permit |
| Michigan Regulations: | <i>Not regulated</i> |
| Washington Regulations: | <i>Secondary Species of Concern</i> ; Class B Noxious Weed; State Wetland and Aquatic or Noxious Weed Quarantine List |
| II. Establishment Potential and Life History Traits | |
| a. Life History | Submersed, perennial, dicotyledonous forb ² |
| Fecundity | High |
| Reproduction | Sexual; Asexual |
| Importance of Seeds: | Low in New Jersey; seeds readily germinate within native range ⁶ |
| Vegetative: | Most important ⁷ ; rhizomes and stem fragments easily broken ¹ |
| Hybridization | Undocumented |
| Overwintering | |
| Winter Tolerance: | High |
| Phenology: | Flowers from May-September in U.S. ¹ ; grows year round in Australia |
| b. Establishment | |
| Climate | |
| Weather: | Prefers hot, humid weather in range of 13-27°C, but plant fragments can remain viable under ice ¹ |
| Wisconsin-Adapted: | Likely |
| Climate Change: | Likely to facilitate growth and distribution |
| Taxonomic Similarity | |
| Wisconsin Natives: | Medium; family Cabombaceae ³ |
| Other US Exotics: | Low |
| Competition | |
| Natural Predators: | Waterfowl and some fish ⁶ ; <i>Hydrotimetes natans</i> (herbivorous weevil) and <i>Paracles</i> spp. (moths) ⁸ |
| Natural Pathogens: | Undocumented |
| Competitive Strategy: | Rapid growth; shades sub-surface vegetation; tolerates turbid water ¹ |
| Known Interactions: | <i>C. caroliniana</i> dominance is negatively correlated with <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> and <i>Vallisneria natans</i> ⁴ ; can also outcompete <i>Potamogeton</i> spp., <i>Chara</i> spp., and <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> ⁸ |
| Reproduction | |
| Rate of Spread: | High |
| Adaptive Strategies: | Fragments can survive free-floating for 6 to 8 weeks ¹ |
| Timeframe | Undocumented |
| c. Dispersal | |
| Intentional: | Aquarium trade, local small-scale cultivation ¹ |
| Unintentional: | Wind, water, birds, boats, trailers, recreational equipment ¹ |
| Propagule Pressure: | High; fragments easily accidentally introduced and source populations near Wisconsin |



Figure 2: Courtesy of Kerry Dressler, University of Massachusetts-Amherst⁹
 Figure 3: Courtesy of Ann Murray, University of Florida¹⁰

III. Damage Potential

a. Ecosystem Impacts

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Composition | Native plant richness and abundance decreases ^{1,5,11} ; in Australia, water rat and platypus numbers are lower in infested creeks ¹ |
| Structure | Monocultures ⁸ ; changes community architecture ⁸ |
| Function | Decreases in dissolved oxygen concentration and light penetration; temperature fluctuations in dense populations ^{1,4} |
| Allelopathic Effects | Yes ^{12,13} |
| Keystone Species | Undocumented |
| Ecosystem Engineer | Yes; dense canopy decreases light penetration |
| Sustainability | Undocumented |
| Biodiversity | Decreases ⁵ |
| Biotic Effects | Reduces local plant diversity and animal populations; inhibits blue-green algae growth ¹² |
| Abiotic Effects | Decreases in dissolved oxygen concentration |
| Benefits | May provide habitat for some small fish and plankton ¹ |

b. Socio-Economic Effects

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Benefits | May be used in heavy metal (lead) removal from water systems ¹⁴ |
| Caveats | Risk of release and population expansion outweighs benefits of use |
| Impacts of Restriction | Increase in monitoring, education, and research costs |
| Negatives | Dense growth inhibits recreation and aesthetics ¹ ; may clog drainage and irrigation canals or water treatment pipes ^{1,8} ; decreases native diversity and abundance; requires expensive control: non-target species are negatively affected |
| Expectations | More negative impacts can be expected in low energy, high nutrient, acidic systems |
| Cost of Impacts | Decreased recreational and aesthetic value; decline in ecological integrity; increased research expenses; water treatment can increase by up to \$50 a megalitre ¹ |
| “Eradication” Cost | Quite expensive |

| IV. Control and Prevention | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| a. Detection | |
| Crypsis: | High; confused with native <i>Ranunculus</i> spp., <i>Ceratophyllum</i> spp., <i>Myriophyllum</i> spp., and <i>Megalodonta beckii</i> |
| Benefits of Early Response: | High; early response might prevent negative impacts of dense growth |
| b. Control | |
| Management Goal 1 | Eradication |
| Tool: | Habitat modification (drawdown, shading, dyes) |
| Caveat: | Eradication may be impossible; no confirmed long-term success |
| Cost: | Extremely expensive |
| Efficacy, Time Frame: | Repeat treatments or large-scale drawdown |
| Management Goal 2 | Nuisance relief |
| Tool: | Chemical (endothall, fluridone) ^{6,15} ; mechanical or manual harvest |
| Caveat: | Harvesting causes fragmentation which increases distribution and density |
| Cost: | Affordable to expensive |
| Efficacy, Time Frame: | Yearly management likely necessary; negative effects on other non-target species |
| Tool: | Biological control (i.e. grass carp, invertebrate herbivores) |
| Caveat: | Options are available, however not fully developed or tested ⁸ |
| Cost: | Undocumented |
| Efficacy, Time Frame: | Grass carp has been effective in the southern U.S. |

¹ Global Invasive Species Database. 2006. *Cabomba caroliniana*. Retrieved December 21, 2010 from: <http://www.invasivespecies.net/database/species/ecology.asp?si=402&fr=1&sts=sss>

² United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service. 2010. The PLANTS Database. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA, USA. Retrieved December 21, 2010 from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=CACA>

³ University of Wisconsin – Madison. 2005. Wisconsin Botanical Information System, Wisflora. Retrieved December 21, 2010 from: <http://www.botany.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/SearchResults.cgi?Family=Cabombaceae>

⁴ Yu, M., B. Ding, J. Yu, X. Jin, H. Zhou and W. Ye. 2004. Basic characteristics of submerged plant communities invaded by *Cabomba caroliniana* and its habitat in China. *Acta Phytocologica Sinica* 28(2):231-239.

⁵ Lyon, J. and T. Eastman. 2006. Macrophyte species assemblages and distribution in a shallow, eutrophic lake. *Northeastern Naturalist* 13(3):443-453.

⁶ Washington State Department of Ecology. Technical information about *Cabomba caroliniana* (Fanwort). Retrieved December 21, 2010 from: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/weeds/aqua006.html>

⁷ Jin, X., B. Ding, S. Gao and J. Weimei. 2005. Invasion and spreading of *Cabomba caroliniana* revealed by RAPD markers. *Chinese Journal of Oceanology and Limnology* 23(4):406-413.

⁸ Schooler, S., M. Julien and G.C. Walsh. 2006. Predicting the response of *Cabomba caroliniana* populations to biological control agent damage. *Australian Journal of Entomology* 45(4):327-330.

⁹ Dressler, K. 1996. *Cabomba caroliniana* (Fanwort). Retrieved November 16, 2010 from: <http://www.fosterspond.com/fanwort.htm>

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- ¹⁰ Murray, A. 1998. *Cabomba caroliniana*. Retrieved November 16, 2010 from: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/node/76>
- ¹¹ Cao, P., M. Yu, X. Jin and B. Ding. 2006. Studies on niche characteristics and interspecific association of main populations in submerged communities invaded by *Cabomba caroliniana*. *Journal of Zhejiang University Agriculture and Life Sciences* 32(3):334-340.
- ¹² Nakai, S., M. Hosomi, M. Okada and A. Murakami. 1996. Control of algal growth by macrophytes and macrophyte-extracted bioactive compounds. *Water Science and Technology* 34(7/8):227-235.
- ¹³ Randall, R. 1997. Weed potential of Cabomba, *Cabomba caroliniana* A. Gray (Family: Cabombaceae). *Agriculture Western Australia*.
- ¹⁴ Yaowakhan, P., M. Kruatrachue, P. Pokethitiyook and V. Soonthornsarathool. 2005. Removal of lead using some aquatic macrophytes. *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* 75:723-730.
- ¹⁵ Nelson, L.S., A.B. Stewart and K.D. Getsinger. 2002. Fluridone effects on fanwort and water marigold. *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* 40:58-63.