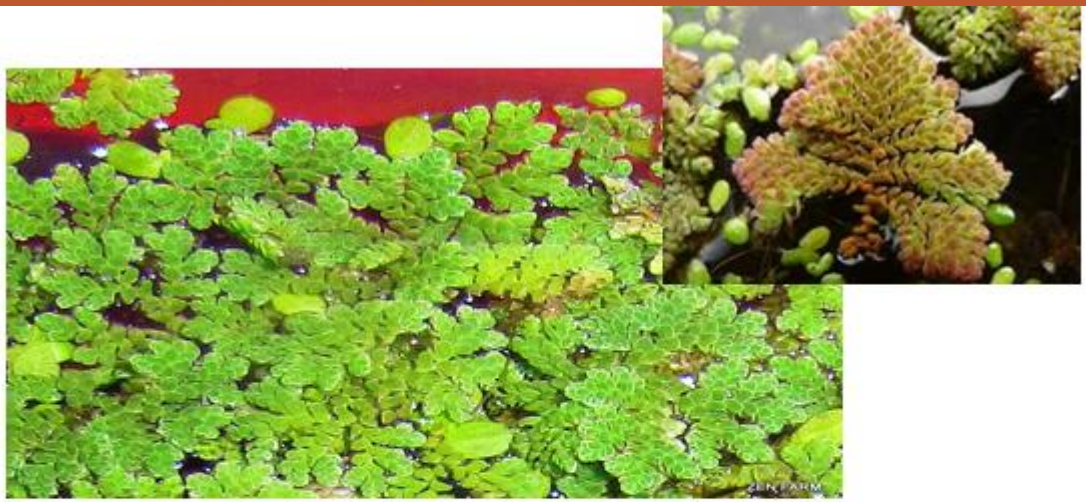
INVASIVE WEEDS IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

ABOUT INVASIVE WEEDS

- Invasive weeds are weeds that establish, persist and spread widely in natural ecosystems outside the plant's native range.
- They are prolific seeders and vigorous growers and have the ability to adapt well to a variety of conditions.
- Native species have not evolved alongside these plants as they have trouble competing for resources.
- These invasive plants can displace native flora, reducing plant diversity until a landscape is no longer able to support longstanding native plant, animal, and insect communities.

SALVINIA MOLESTA

Grows rapidly and produces a dense floating canopy on the surface of ponds, lakes, and rivers. *Salvinia molesta* is a floating aquatic fern that thrives in slow-moving, nutrient-rich, warm, freshwater. It spreads aggressively by vegetative fragments. It is dispersed at long distances within a water body and between water bodies . It may be cultivated by aquarium and pond owners and is sometimes released by flooding or intentional dumping.



AZOLLA PINNATA

Is an aquatic invasive plant, is a small fern with a triangular frond measuring up to 2.5 centimeters in length which floats on the water. The frond is made up of many rounded or angular overlapping leaves each 1 or 2 millimeters long. They are green, blue-green, or dark red in color and coated in tiny hairs, giving them a velvety appearance. The hairs make the top surface of the leaf water-repellent.

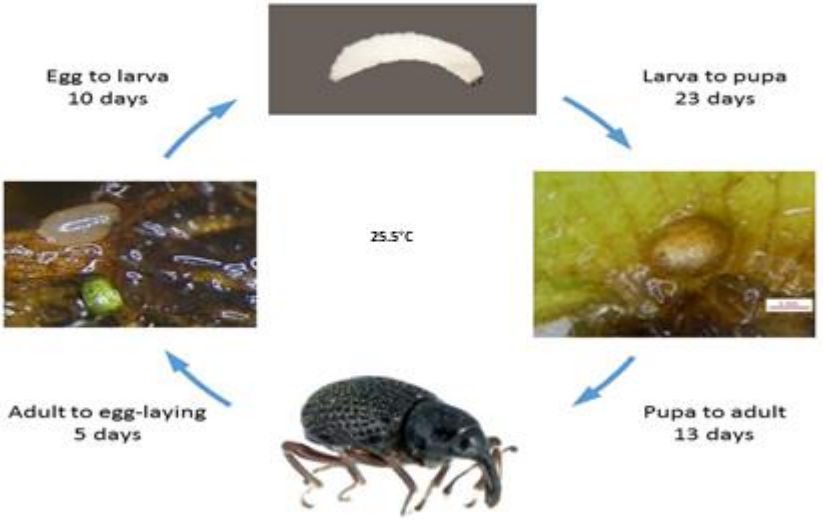
WATER HYACINTH

Eichhornia crassipes, commonly known as **common water hyacinth**, is often a highly problematic invasive species outside its native range. With broad, thick, glossy, ovate leaves, water hyacinth may rise above the surface of the water as much as 1 meter in height. Water hyacinth is found in many parts of the country including Kafue River, Zambezi river, Maramba river and the Lagoons of the upper Luangwa River.

MIMOSA PIGRA

Commonly known as the giant sensitive tree, is a species of the genus *Mimosa*, it has been listed as one of the world's 100 worst invasive species and forms dense, thorny, impenetrable thickets, particularly in wet areas like the regularly flooded areas of Lochinvar National Park, Zambia.

THE LIFE CYCLE OF *CYRTOBAGOUS SALVINIAE*



THE SALVINIA BEETLE

introduced in

THE LUKANGA SWAMP

The Salvinia/Javani Beetle

Cyrtobagous salviniae

✓	☺		Salvinia (Javani)
✓	☺		Use existing canals
✓	☺		Correct Fishing gear
✓	☺		Water
x	☹		No poison, chemicals or toxic substances
x	☹		No plastic pollution
x	☹		No fires
x	☹		No taking Javani out of the swamp

The Salvinia beetles feed on Javani and kill it by burrowing in the roots and leaves

Once the Salvinia is finished

The Beetles die

ABOUT BIRDWATCH ZAMBIA

Formerly Zambia Orthological Society (ZOS)- is a membership based environmental NGO established in 1969. BWZ is a member of Birdlife International

Mission of the organization

To conserve Zambia's birds and their habitats and to provide the opportunity for all Zambians to enjoy birds.

Vision

To be a leading Zambian conservation NGO that enhances the quality of life of birds through people.

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