

PONTEDERIACEAE – WATER-HYACINTH FAMILY

Plant: mostly perennial herbs; aquatic or growing on mud

Stem: with rhizomes

Root:

Leaves: mostly simple, ovate to lanceolate or reduced to flattened petioles; usually opposite or whorled (3-4)

Flowers: perfect; 3 sepals and petals and sometimes difficult to distinguish; 1-3- or more, commonly 6 stamens and often dissimilar; ovary superior, 3 carpels, 1 style, 1 to numerous ovules

Fruit: capsule or utricle (1 seed inflated fruit)

Other: Monocotyledons Group

Genera: 6+ genera; locally *Pontederia* (pickerel weed)

PONTEDERIACEAE – WATER-HYACINTH FAMILY

[Bouquet] Mud Plantain; *Heteranthera multiflora* (Griseb.) Horn
Pickerel Weed; *Pontederia cordata* L.

[Bouquet] Mud Plantain

Heteranthera multiflora (Griseb.) Horn
Pontederiaceae (Water-Hyacinth Family)

Otter Slough conservation Area,
Stoddard County, Missouri

Notes: mostly aquatic plant, annual; stems creeping and often submerged, mature leaves in rosettes at nodes, blade ovate to orbicular with pronounced cordate base (up to 5+ cm); flowers on elongate spike, perianth light purple (rarely white), salverform with 6 long lobes in double series, 2 with yellow dots at base, note purple pubescence on filaments; slow moving stagnant waters; summer to fall

[V Max Brown, 20018]



Pickerel Weed

Pontederia cordata L.

Pontederiaceae (Water-Hyacinth Family)

Maumee Bay State Park, Lucas County,
Ohio

Notes: mostly aquatic plant; flower blue to violet (both sepals and petals), funnel-shaped, 6 lobes in double series (weakly 2-lipped); leaves mostly cordate to somewhat lanceolate, variable; pond and lake borders; summer to early fall

[V Max Brown, 2006]

