# Traveling Trunk of Invasive Species



#### Herb Kumpf and Heidi Vestrem

2012 version 1.0



# Traveling Trunk of Invasive Species

Produced by

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For Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species 2012 version 1.0

# Content

Introduction: Using the "Trunk" Definitions: What are invasive species? Pathways/Sources: How do they get here? Impacts: What is their effect? Ecological and Economic **Invasive Plants: Species Profiles Invasive Animals:** Species Profiles What can we do? Useful Web Sites for more information Acknowledgements

# Introduction

It is because of our concern about the alarming numbers and impact of invasive species that we have compiled information and produced this "Traveling Trunk" for the Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel on Invasive Species.

The "Trunk" is intended to serve as outreach and an educational resource from the Panel.

The "Trunk" consists of three sections:

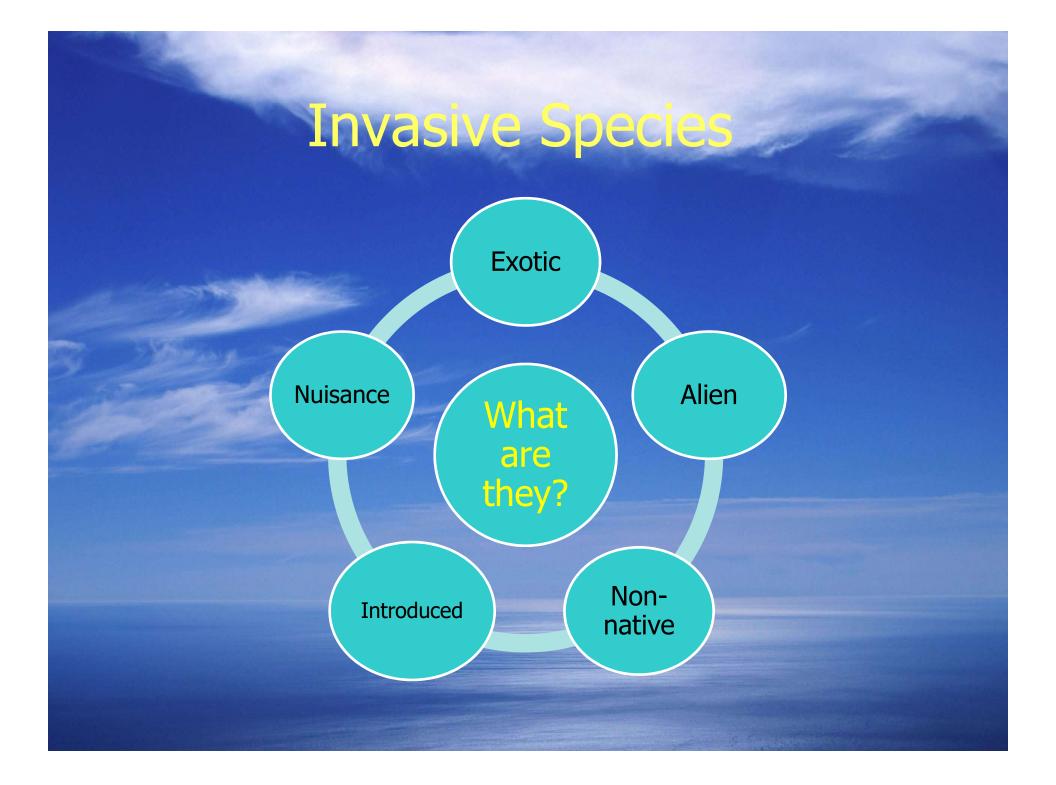
 This manual of informative talking points.
 A PowerPoint presentation on compact disc (CD) of manual content.
 Samples of embedded and laminated invasive species specimens for "hands-on" use.

### Introductior

We suggest you review the check list of contents, preview the talking points, test the CD for projection, and familiarize yourself with the included examples.

The material is appropriate for interested lay people, secondary school students and gifted programs.

Suggestions and ideas will be very much appreciated. Your comments may be emailed to the Regional Panel at <a href="http://www.gsarp.org">www.gsarp.org</a> or by contacting the authors at <a href="http://http:



# Pathways/Sources of Invasives:

#### • Intentional:

- Stocking
- Food Importation
- Aquaria / Pet Stores
  - Personal Releases
- Property Development

#### • Non-Intentional:

- Natural
- Shipping
- Boat Movement
- Ballast Water
- Aquaculture

# **Invasive Species Impacts:**

Ecological:
Habitat Degradation
Food Chain Alteration
Compete With Native Species

#### • Economic:

- Increased Management Costs
- Economic Losses
- Reduced Natural Productivity





# **Invasive Plants**







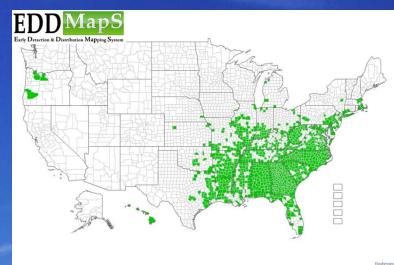
A. Murray, Univ. of Florida / IFAS

#### (Pueraria montana)

Udzi





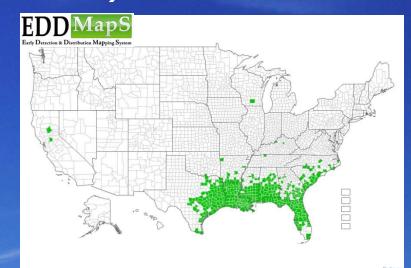


- Native Range
- Route of Introduction
- Purpose/ Use
- Brief Life History
- ImpactsEcologicalEconomic

# Chinese Talowtree (Triadica sebifera)





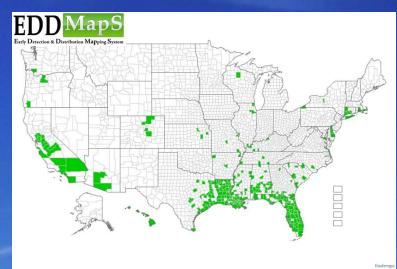


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## Mater Hyacintr (Eichhornia crassipes)





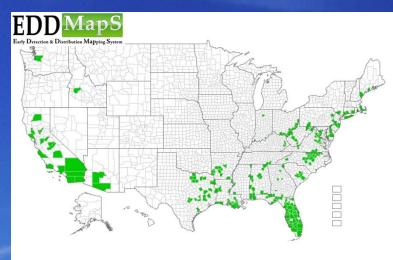


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   Economic

### Hydrilla (Hydrilla species)





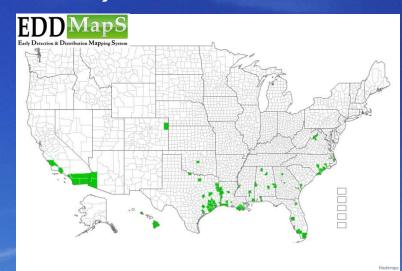


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# Salvinia molesta)







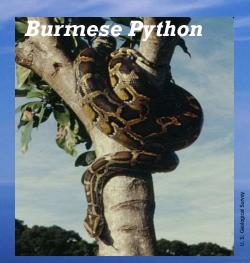
- Native Range
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# **Invasive Animals**







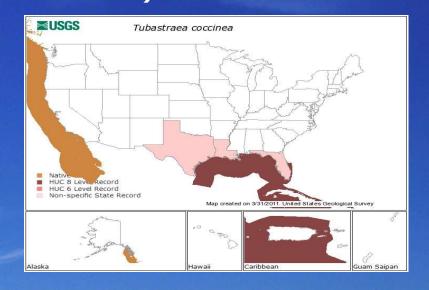
# **Invasive Invertebrates**

Orange Cup Coral
Green Mussel
Zebra Mussel

### Orange Cup Cora (Tubastraea coccinea)







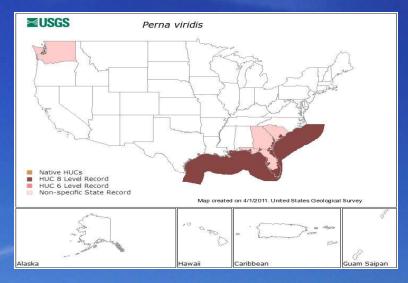
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# Green Musse

#### (Perna viridis)

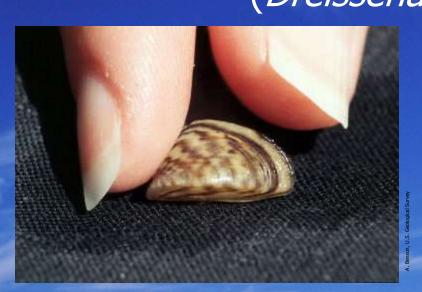




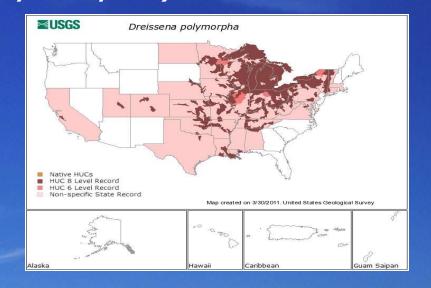


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# Zebra Mussel (Dreissena polymorpha)







- Native Range
- Route of Introduction
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# **Invasive Vertebrates**

Pacific Lionfish
Burmese Python
Nutria

# Pacific Lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*)







- Native Range
- Route of Introduction
- Purpose/ Use
- Brief Life History
- ImpactsEcologicalEconomic

#### **Have You Seen Me?**



Identification:

Lionfish have distinctive red, maroon,

Fleshy tentacles above eyes and below

An adult lionfish can grow as large as 18"

13 long separated dorsal spines;

and white vertical stripes;

Fan-like pectoral fins;

10-11 dorsal soft rays;

and 6-7 anal soft rays;

Lionfish underwater

3 anal spines;

mouth;

The venomous Indo-Pacific 'Lionfish'is regularly observed in habitats within the southeast region (Florida to North Carolina) and the Bahamas. These fish are not native to Atlantic waters and may have a negative impact on native fish populations. All of their spines are venomous and can cause extreme pain! If stung, immerse wound in hot water and seek medical attention as soon as possible.

#### Geographic Location and Habitat:

Lionfish are native to Indo-Pacific waters and are now being reported primarily by Scuba divers from the Bahamas to Cape Hatteras NC in water depths from 5 to 300 ft on hard bottom, coral reef and artificial substrates. Lionfish can also be caught by hook and line. NOAA requests information about all Lionfish collected by hook and line. Location information such as lat/long, depth and type of bait and tackle are encouraged.

Recommendation: If you catch a lionfish be extremely careful, do not come in contact with the dorsal, anal or ventral spines. If fish must be handled, thick PVC gloves or a gaff is recommended. Please do not throw lionfish back in the water! NOAA is interested in all lionfish specimens and reports. Put lionfish on ice and report any lionfish catches to NOAA at (252) 728-8714 or email reportlionfish@noaa.gov

Report online at http://www8.nos.noaa.gov/nccos/ccfhr/lionfishreport.aspx

For more information and to print out additional flyers go to: <u>http://coastalscience.noaa.gov/education/lionfish.html</u> <u>http://lionfish.eisf.org</u> or google"lionfish outreach"

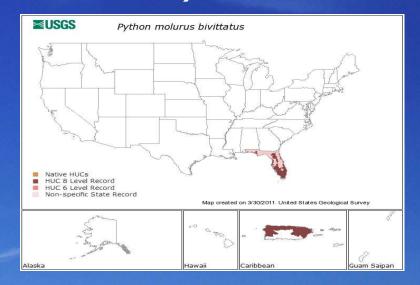




### Burmese Python (Python molurus bivittatus)





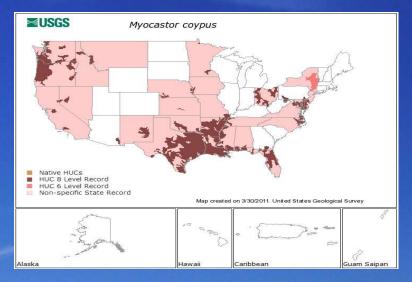


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# (Myocastor coypus)







- Native Range
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# What can WE do?

Prevention
Educate Ourselves
Observe & Report

# Web Sites:

**Regional Panel:** 

www.gsarp.org

National Invasive Species Council:

US Geological Survey:

NOAA Sea Grant:

Center for Invasive Species:

www.invasivespecies.gov

nas.er.usgs.gov

www.iiseagrant.org/NabInvader

www.invasive.org

www.bugwood.org

www.eddmaps.org

### Acknowledgements

• In designing, developing and assembling such a project of farranging subject matter, the involvement and the cooperation of many individuals was essential to the outcome of our efforts. The participation of members of the Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species (GSARP) and the organizations they represent was a key element to our success.

 We are grateful for the contributions of Pam Fuller, Tom Jackson, Pam Schofield, Amy Benson, Earl Chilton, Don Schmitz, Don Knott, Rebecca Hillebrandt, James Morris, Lisa Gonzalez, Chris Furqueron, Lad Akins, Tonya Shearer, Amy Richards, and Karan Rawlins.

We thank June Rimmer of Carolina Biological Supply for her artful embedding of the invertebrate specimens. A special thanks to the University of Florida's Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants and the University of Georgia's Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health's Bugwood site for the use of images which are gratefully acknowledged, recognized and noted where they appear.

### Acknowledgements

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