



### Often Confused with:

1. Chara
2. Cabomba
3. Milfoil



## Coontail, Hornwort *Ceratophyllum Demersum*

Coontail is a rooted submerged plant but may also grow in floating mats. These mats can be wind blown across a pond and bank up in dense rafts that render a pond unusable. Rooted plants may continue to grow after being dislodged and can spread by fragmentation. This means that any portion of the plant that is broken off may continue to grow into an entirely new plant. Mechanical control is usually not successful because it

creates as many new plants as it removes. Early Season growth is usually bright green in color and soft to the touch. Late in the season or vegetation that has overwintered will often be a darker green or Olive color and sometimes almost black. This older vegeta-



Coontail

tion is much stiffer and somewhat brittle. Because it is a perennial plant there is usually a fair amount of vegetation that survives the winter. Typically perennial plants take three or more years to complete their life cycle. Coontail may bloom in the Spring but flowers are plain and difficult to distinguish from the rest of the plant. Coontail also produces seeds after it flowers. This plant is excellent habitat for aquatic "bugs" that

### Treatment Options:

1. Sonar—\$115/acft
2. Aquathol K—\$165/acft
3. Aquathol granular—\$295/acft
4. Reward Mix—\$155/acft

Note: All prices are estimated and based on one acre foot of water and subject to change.

### Control of Coontail

Coontail is best treated in the early season when vegetation is present and water temperatures stabilize above 70 F. Sonar or other Fluridone based products offer the most economical and longterm treatments. The disadvantage to these treatments are that 90-120 days are

needed from the time of treatment to the time of control. Additionally, Fluridone treatments have a relatively small window of opportunity. Treatments done outside of this window are seldom effective. Later in the season Aquathol is the best option

for treatment. Aquathol is a fast acting contact herbicide. Because it works so quickly (4-7 days) oxygen depletions are a real possibility, especially when there is an abundance of vegetation. This risk can be reduced by treating small sections of the pond roughly 2 weeks apart. The