

# Please call 1-866-invader if you suspect you have found this species

**Delta Arrowhead**  
*Sagittaria platyphylla*

**Other common names:** Ovate leaf arrowhead, broad leaf arrowhead, delta arrowhead, chilensis

**USDA symbol:** SAPL  
**ODA rating:** A and T



**Introduction:** Delta arrowhead is a perennial wetland plant, inhabiting wetlands, marshes, shallow lakes and slow moving waterways. Native to the Southeast United States, *S. platyphylla* is present within one lake in Thurston County, WA (Parsons, per com.2014). Little information is available regarding impact and control within the United States.

**Distribution:** The first confirmed identification of *S. platyphylla* in the State of Oregon occurred in July 2014 within the Blue Heron Wetlands of Portland. Although present in 2013, sparse populations of 10 - 15 individuals exploded to > 400 individuals in the coming year. *Sagittaria platyphylla* is currently on the State of Washington's quarantine list with an established population in Thurston County, WA.



**Description:** *Sagittaria platyphylla* is an aquatic plant in the Water-Plantain family that can grow up to 5 ft. tall. It has stolons and fleshy corms. *S. platyphylla* has two types of leaves. One type of leaf is held above the surface by long rigid triangular petioles. These leaves are linear-ovate to ovate and are from 2-6.5 in. long with an acute apex. The submerged leaf is sessile (directly attached to stem) and strap shaped. Leaf shape and growth form are directly influenced by submersion or emersion above water. Submerged plants are widely available in the aquarium trade under the name Chilensis. The flowers are held on a raceme in 3-9 whorls. Each flower has three green sepals and three white to pinkish petals. Fruits are from 0.3-0.5 in. in diameter. *S. platyphylla* spreads both by seed and vegetatively via corms.

**Impacts:** Delta arrowhead has the capacity to invade dirt-lined irrigation and drainage canals causing slowdowns in water movement. They primarily compete with native vegetation, can populate mudflats valuable to feeding birds, and may restrict fish movement in shallow water bodies. It is an important wetland species in the lower Mississippi River wetlands where it is utilized by waterfowl and mammals.

**Biological controls:** No biocontrol agents are available. Weed populations will be targeted for eradication.

