

Invasive Plants of the Eastern United States

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Swearingen, J., K. Reshetiloff, B. Slattery, and S. Zwicker. 2002. Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas. National Park Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 82 pp.

Marsh Dewflower*Murdannia keisak*

Marsh dewflower, a member of the spiderwort family and native of eastern Asia, was first noted in 1935 in cultivated rice paddies in South Carolina. It escaped and has become established in the wild in 18 southern states and the District of Columbia. Marsh dewflower prefers damp soil at the edge of freshwater tidal marshes, around ponds and along slow moving streams. Its aggressive growth enables it to out-compete native plants by forming dense mats. Seeds are dispersed by wildlife. It also spreads when floods distribute root fragments to new locations.

*Brent Steury, NPS***Prevention and Control**

Hand pulling may be effective if done before the plant sets seed. Glyphosate treatments were ineffective when applied early in the season.

Native Alternatives

water plantain (*Alisma subcordatum*), three-way sedge (*Dulichium arundinaceum*), duck-potato or arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia* or *rigida*)

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