Alligatorweed

Alligatorweed (Alternanthera philoxeroides) is a perennial, evergreen forb, with hollow round stems and opposite leaves at nodes. Upturned stems produce stalked white clover-like flowers in upper axils during summer. Trailing or floating entangled stems form mats to 3 feet (90 cm) deep over 100s of square feet (meters) on water and adjoining land. Horizontal jointed stems readily branch and root at nodes in water to 6.5 feet (2 m) deep or when next to soil. Deep mats prevent other plants from germinating in the spring and overtops aquatic and upland plants, damaging wetland wildlife habitats.

Recommended control procedures:
Thoroughly wet all leaves with one of the following herbicides in water:
- Habitat* applied as a 0.5-percent (2 ounces per 3-gallon mix) solution in a 100 gallon per acre mix.
- Clearcast as a 1-percent solution (4 ounces per 3-gallon mix) if foliage is emerged.
- A glyphosate product (Rodeo for aquatic sites) or Garlon 4 (Renovate 3 for aquatic sites) as a 2-percent solution (8 ounces per 3-gallon mix) for good control above the water line.

* Nontarget plants may be killed or injured by root uptake