

# GIANT SALVINIA

*Salvinia molesta*



- Native to Southeastern Brazil
- Spreads by fragmentation
- Free floating fern
- Can double in biomass in 3-5 days
- Introduced to LA in 1998 in Toledo Bend Reservoir
- Currently established statewide

## Giant Salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)

Top of leaf surface is covered in rows of hairs that look like "egg beaters"



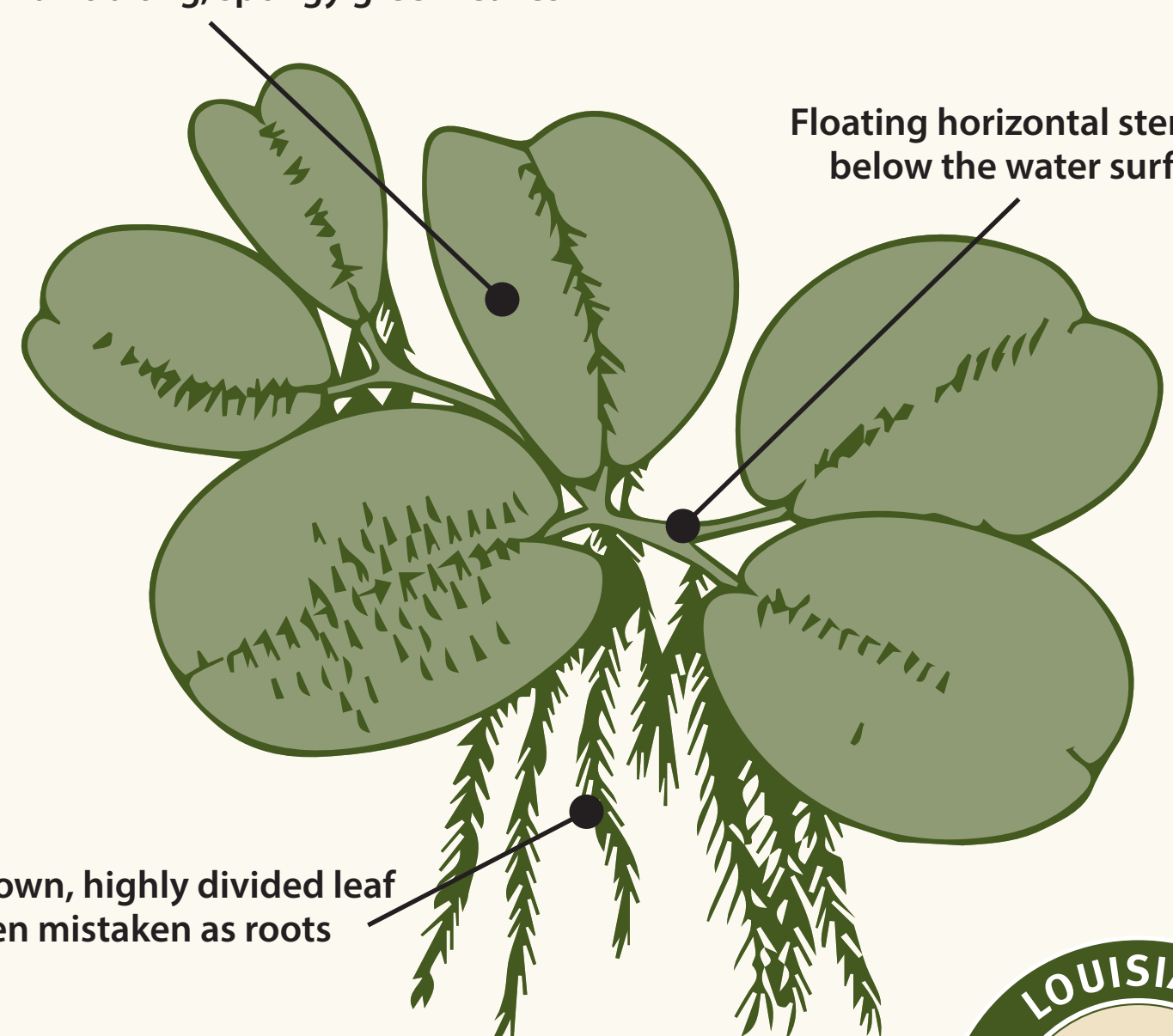
## Common Salvinia (*Salvinia minima*)

Top of leaf surface is covered in rows of hairs with open branches



2 small oblong, spongy green leaves

Floating horizontal stem just below the water surface



1 submersed brown, highly divided leaf which is often mistaken as roots