

# Didymo – Rock Snot

*Didymosphenia geminata*

## **(NOT) WANTED FOR:**

- Growing thick mat-like growths (blooms) along stream beds
- Altering stream conditions and water quality
- Choking out native organisms living on the stream bottom
- Decreasing available food for native fish
- Impeding recreational activities

Didymo, commonly referred to as “rock snot,” is an invasive microalgae that is capable of producing large amounts of stalk material that form thick brown mats on stream bottoms. Native to Northern North America and Europe, didymo is rapidly expanding its range.



Photo Credit: Tim Daley, Pennsylvania DEP

### **Identification**

- Tan, brown, or white, possibly with long white “tails”
- Texture of wet wool (not slimy)
- Does not fall apart when rubbed between fingers, strong and firmly attached

# Didymo – Rock Snot

*Didymosphenia geminata*

## **(NOT) WANTED FOR:**

- Growing thick mat-like growths (blooms) along stream beds
- Altering stream conditions and water quality
- Choking out native organisms living on the stream bottom
- Decreasing available food for native fish
- Impeding recreational activities

Didymo, commonly referred to as “rock snot,” is an invasive microalgae that is capable of producing large amounts of stalk material that form thick brown mats on stream bottoms. Native to Northern North America and Europe, didymo is rapidly expanding its range.



Photo Credit: Tim Daley, Pennsylvania DEP

### **Identification**

- Tan, brown, or white, possibly with long white “tails”
- Texture of wet wool (not slimy)
- Does not fall apart when rubbed between fingers, strong and firmly attached

# Didymo – Rock Snot

*Didymosphenia geminata*

## **(NOT) WANTED FOR:**

- Growing thick mat-like growths (blooms) along stream beds
- Altering stream conditions and water quality
- Choking out native organisms living on the stream bottom
- Decreasing available food for native fish
- Impeding recreational activities

Didymo, commonly referred to as “rock snot,” is an invasive microalgae that is capable of producing large amounts of stalk material that form thick brown mats on stream bottoms. Native to Northern North America and Europe, didymo is rapidly expanding its range.



Photo Credit: Tim Daley, Pennsylvania DEP

### **Identification**

- Tan, brown, or white, possibly with long white “tails”
- Texture of wet wool (not slimy)
- Does not fall apart when rubbed between fingers, strong and firmly attached

## Control Options

While there are currently no known methods for controlling or eradicating didymo once it has infested a water body, we are still able to prevent it from spreading into other uninfested bodies of water.

Didymo is commonly spread unknowingly by recreational water users, including anglers, kayakers or canoeists, and other boaters. The algae is able to cling to waders, boots, boats, lures, hooks, fishing lines, and any other equipment that comes into contact with the water - even dogs! Didymo can remain viable for several weeks in dry conditions.



Photo Credit: Whitney Cranshaw, Bugwood.org

### Prevention Is Key

In order to prevent didymo from spreading into uninfested waterways, we must remember to properly clean our equipment before entering a new body of water (as pictured above). An effective way to limit the spread is using the **Clean, Drain, Dry** method:

- Clean: remove all visible animals, plants, and debris from boats, trailers and all equipment before entering and after exiting a body of water
- Drain: drain water from all live wells, bilges, etc.
- Dry: allow boats and equipment to dry before entering a new body of water (can take 5-7 days)



This project was contracted by the Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management using funds from the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

## Control Options

While there are currently no known methods for controlling or eradicating didymo once it has infested a water body, we are still able to prevent it from spreading into other uninfested bodies of water.

Didymo is commonly spread unknowingly by recreational water users, including anglers, kayakers or canoeists, and other boaters. The algae is able to cling to waders, boots, boats, lures, hooks, fishing lines, and any other equipment that comes into contact with the water - even dogs! Didymo can remain viable for several weeks in dry conditions.



Photo Credit: Whitney Cranshaw, Bugwood.org

### Prevention Is Key

In order to prevent didymo from spreading into uninfested waterways, we must remember to properly clean our equipment before entering a new body of water (as pictured above). An effective way to limit the spread is using the **Clean, Drain, Dry** method:

- Clean: remove all visible animals, plants, and debris from boats, trailers and all equipment before entering and after exiting a body of water
- Drain: drain water from all live wells, bilges, etc.
- Dry: allow boats and equipment to dry before entering a new body of water (can take 5-7 days)



This project was contracted by the Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management using funds from the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

## Control Options

While there are currently no known methods for controlling or eradicating didymo once it has infested a water body, we are still able to prevent it from spreading into other uninfested bodies of water.

Didymo is commonly spread unknowingly by recreational water users, including anglers, kayakers or canoeists, and other boaters. The algae is able to cling to waders, boots, boats, lures, hooks, fishing lines, and any other equipment that comes into contact with the water - even dogs! Didymo can remain viable for several weeks in dry conditions.



Photo Credit: Whitney Cranshaw, Bugwood.org

### Prevention Is Key

In order to prevent didymo from spreading into uninfested waterways, we must remember to properly clean our equipment before entering a new body of water (as pictured above). An effective way to limit the spread is using the **Clean, Drain, Dry** method:

- Clean: remove all visible animals, plants, and debris from boats, trailers and all equipment before entering and after exiting a body of water
- Drain: drain water from all live wells, bilges, etc.
- Dry: allow boats and equipment to dry before entering a new body of water (can take 5-7 days)



This project was contracted by the Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management using funds from the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.