



Pickerel Weed

Pickerelweed *(Pontederia cordata)*

Instant ID

- A plant with leaves and flowers above and roots below water
- Leaves are 4-10 inches long and resemble broad spear-points with rounded corners
- Flowers grow clustered in purple spikes on the tips of stems a little taller than the leaves
- Often grows up to 4 feet tall and in mats (collections of many plants in one area)

Native Niches

- Grows near the banks and shores of rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, marshes and swamps
- Found throughout the eastern United States and from Canada to Argentina





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Plant Particulars

- Can reproduce by rhizomes (roots which sprout new plants)
- Leaves and flowers do not tolerate being under water
- Blooms from May to October in most places and year round in South Florida
- Named after a freshwater fish
- Seeds can remain viable (able to sprout) for many years in dried mud

Population Protection

- Makes an excellent, native choice for garden ponds
- Valuable food plant for animals ranging in size from bees to deer
- Helps control erosion and absorb pollution

