

QUICK FACTS

PALE YELLOW IRIS



Common aquaculture plants can become invasive if they are not native to Alberta. Wind and water can spread seeds and plant fragments beyond your garden, which creates new populations that can dominate ecosystems and ruin habitat for native species.

DON'T LET IT LOOSE!

Here's how you can help prevent the spread of pale yellow iris:

- 1.** Never release aquarium or domestic pond water, plants, dead or live animals into water bodies.
- 2.** If you see pale yellow iris, report it to the Aquatic Invasive Species Hotline or use EDDMapS Alberta from your smartphone.
- 3.** DO NOT pull or dig it as small fragments easily break off and start new plants.
- 4.** Know the law! Pale yellow iris, also known as yellow flag iris, is listed as prohibited noxious under the Weed Control Act and is a prohibited species under the Fisheries (Alberta) Act. It is illegal to sell, import, transport or possess prohibited species. Penalties can be up to \$100,000 and/or a year in prison.



PALE YELLOW IRIS QUICK FACTS:

- Pale yellow iris is a perennial aquatic plant native to Africa, Asia, and Europe and was likely introduced to North America as an ornamental plant.
- Pale yellow iris leaves are long, dark green and sword-like with raised mid-ribs that are slightly off-centre; overlapping fan-like arrangement starting from the base. Flowers are white to yellow with distinct purple to brown markings. Flat brown seeds form in large, green triangular capsules.
- It is able to reproduce both by seed, easily dispersed by water, and through thick rhizome (root) fragments and bulbs.
- Pale yellow iris presents a human safety concern, as all parts of the plant are irritating to skin and poisonous to humans and animals if consumed.
- Pale yellow iris infestations can displace native vegetation and alter water quality, reducing habitat for fish, wildlife, and native plants.
- Dense rhizome mats in irrigation ditches, channels, or stormwater management ponds can increase sedimentation, disrupt the flow and availability of water and change wetlands to dry environments.
- Control of pale yellow iris can be difficult, especially once well established. Methods for control or eradication by trained personnel include careful hand digging and benthic barriers for isolated or small populations, repeated mechanical cutting, and chemical treatment. Burning is not recommended, as regrowth is expected.
- Care must be taken with hand digging and cutting to ensure all plant fragments are removed and disposed of. Fragments and seeds can drift with water movement and result in new infestations.
- Pale yellow iris has already been found in isolated locations in Alberta.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES, CALL:

1-855-336-BOAT (2628)