

Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Invasive Species Order No. 1 of 2015

By authority conferred on the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development by Section 41302 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.41302, and in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources;

Whereas, the plant species water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) is one of the sixteen least wanted species as determined by the Governor of Michigan; the Governors of Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania; and the Premiers from Ontario and Quebec at a meeting in 2013; and

Whereas, the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act provides that the Commission shall by order add to or delete from the list of prohibited species any insect or plant species that meet the criteria in MCL 324.41302(3)(a); and

Whereas, water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) is not native to this state; and

Whereas, water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) is not naturalized in this state; and

Whereas, water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) forms dense mats that crowd out natural vegetation, severely harming the natural resources of this state; and

Whereas, water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) has sharp, serrated leaf edges that can cut skin, causing potential harm to human health and hindering recreational activities; and

Whereas, after consultation with the Department of Natural Resources the Commission has determined that water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) meets the criteria in MCL 324.41302(3)(a);

Now, therefore be it resolved, the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development determines water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) to be a prohibited species that shall not be introduced, imported, moved, sold, or distributed in any way within the State of Michigan.

Approved January 21, 2015
Lansing, Michigan



Trever Meachum, Chair