

Salvinia molesta vs. *Salvinia minima*

Difficult to tell apart with the naked eye!

Salvinia molesta



- Egg-beater shaped hairs that re-join at the tips
- Forms thicker, taller mats
- Oval to oblong leaves often fold upwards
- Widespread across South Africa
- Successful biological control since the 1980s



Salvinia minima



- Branched hairs remain separate, like forks
- Forms thin, spreading mats
- Almost circular leaves lie on the water surface
- First recorded in 2011 at Hartbeespoort Dam
- Now spreading throughout the Crocodile River catchment into the Limpopo Basin

