

Module

EDDMapS

Step-By Step Instructions for Reporting an Invasive Plant Sighting in **EDDMapS**

Early **D**etection & **D**istribution **M**apping **S**ystem

10/29/2009

A key component in an invasive species Early Detection, Rapid Response program is the development of species distribution maps. Entering and tracking locations of invasives within and between states can identify the “leading edge” of invasive plants heading our way. This gives each of us a chance to implement Early Detection and Rapid Response programs in our area to stop or minimize an invasive plant before it becomes a “kudzu” kind of problem and allow land managers and agencies to prioritize control needs and strategies.

The Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System or EDDMapS, is web-based mapping system for invasive species distribution that is fast and easy to use and doesn't require GIS experience.

Gathering the information is as simple as taking pictures of the invasive plant and noting the location. Location information can be determined by taking the GPS coordinates on-site, or by using EDDMapS on-line map functions to locate the infestation.

Using standardized on-line data forms, you can add specific information about the infestation and images that will then go to a database that aggregates data from other mapping projects and cooperators to display invasive species distribution for county level, state and national level scales.

Step-by-step instructions to enter data and images into EDDMapS follow.

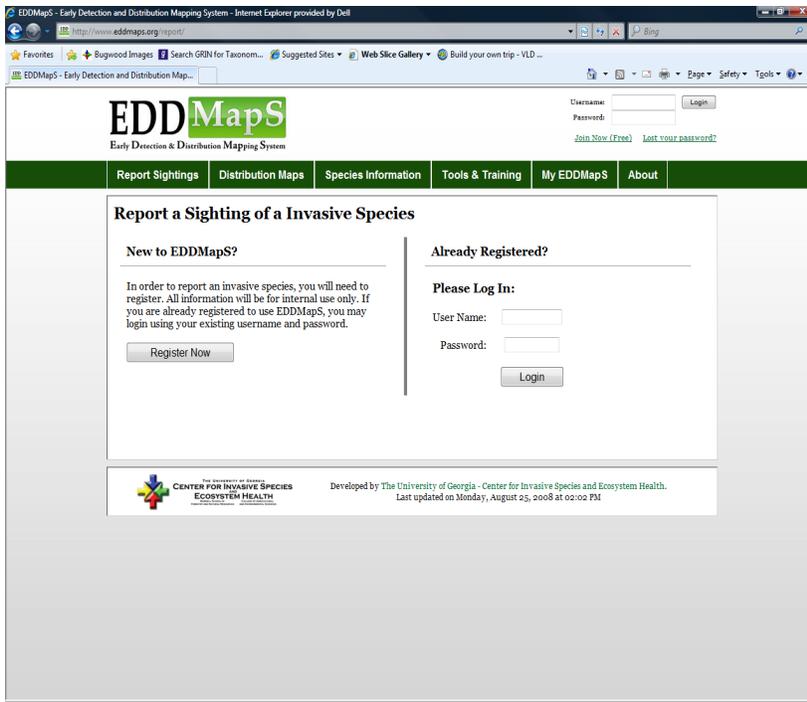
First step : Register as an EDDMapS user.

Go to the EDDMapS website (<http://www.eddmaps.org>)

Select “Report Sightings” from the menu bar.

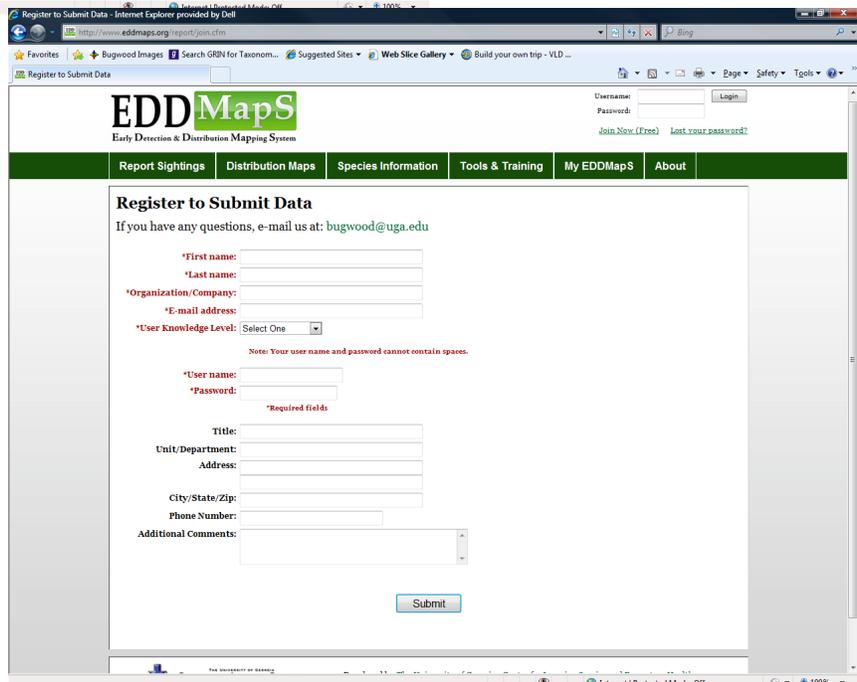


A screenshot of the EDDMapS website as it appeared in Internet Explorer. The browser window title is "EDDMapS - Invasive Species Mapping Made Easy - Internet Explorer provided by Dell". The address bar shows "http://www.eddmaps.org/". The website header includes the EDDMapS logo and a navigation menu with items: "Report Sightings", "Distribution Maps", "Species Information", "Tools & Training", "My EDDMapS", and "About". A login form is visible in the top right corner with fields for "Username:" and "Password:", a "Login" button, and links for "Join Now (Free)" and "Lost your password?". The main content area is divided into several sections: "Invasive Species Mapping Made Easy!" with a photo of a handheld GPS device and a list of features; "Who's Using It?" with a list of partner organizations; "Statistics" showing 596,246 County Reports, 222,928 Point Reports, and 1,690 Species / 903 Users; "Recent Reports" with a list of species sightings; "Report Images" with a photo of green leaves; and "Map It!", "Zap It!", and "Map it Again!" sections with small images and text. A "Supporters" section is partially visible at the bottom left. The browser status bar at the bottom indicates "Internet | Protected Mode: Off" and "100%" zoom.



Click the “Register Now” button.

Fill out the form; then click the “Submit” button.

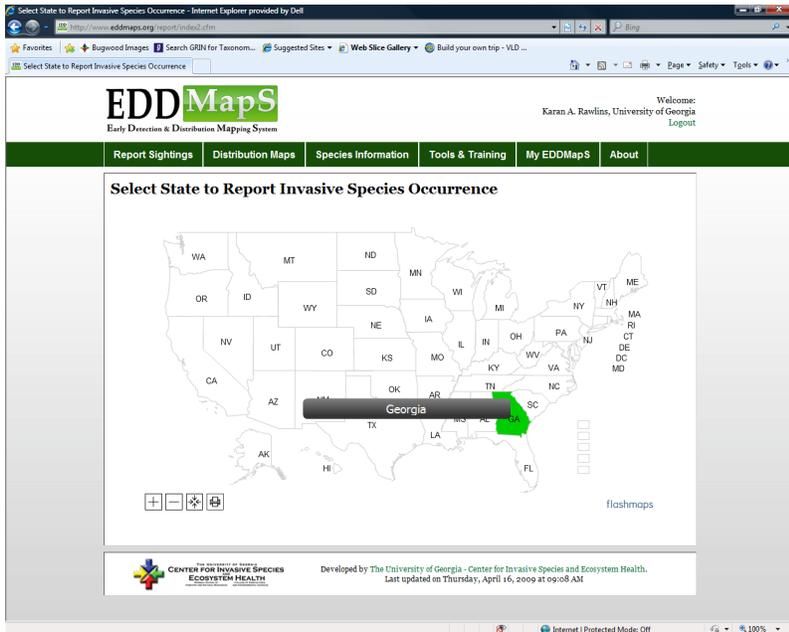


Once you have registered for EDDMapS, you will simply sign in to report an infestation.

Go to the EDDMapS website (<http://www.eddmaps.org>) and select “Report Sightings” from the menu bar.

Log in under, “Please Log In.”

You are now ready to begin the reporting procedure.



State: Select the state for which you are reporting an infestation.

You will see a reporting form with a number of fields. If you place your cursor over the (?) at the end of each field you will get more information about that field.

You might want to take a few minutes the first time you reach this page to explore the information available at each (?).

Most of the fields have arrows for drop down boxes with a list of possible choices for that field.

Beginning at the top, we will first look at
Species:
Pest

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence
Please provide as much information about the sighting as possible.

Species:
Pest: (?)
To report a pest not listed, email bugreport@uga.edu.

Infestation:
 Observation Date: (?)
 Infested Area: (?) Gross Area: (?)
 Habitat: (?) Canopy Closure: (?)
 Abundance/Density: Patch Type:
 Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:
 County: **Location Tools:**

 Latitude: Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (00.0000) and DATUM: NAD83/WGS84.
 Longitude: Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (00.0000) and DATUM: NAD83/WGS84.
 Site Name:
 Ownership: (?) If reporting infestation on private land, be sure to have landowner's permission.
 Location Description:

Upload Images with Your Report:
For verification purposes, take at least two digital images, a close up of the species and one of the site.
 Image: (jpg, < 4 mb)
 Caption:
(provide as much detail as possible, include credit if image is not yours)
 Image: (jpg, < 4 mb)
 Caption:
(provide as much detail as possible, include credit if image is not yours)
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 Caption:
(provide as much detail as possible, include credit if image is not yours)
 Image: (jpg, < 4 mb)
 Caption:
(provide as much detail as possible, include credit if image is not yours)

Additional Information:
 Comments:
 Identified by:
 Voucher Specimen Made: Yes No
 Herbarium holding specimen:

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
**CENTER FOR INVASIVE SPECIES
 ECOSYSTEM HEALTH**
 Developed by The University of Georgia - Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health.
 Last updated on Thursday, August 06, 2009 at 01:43 PM

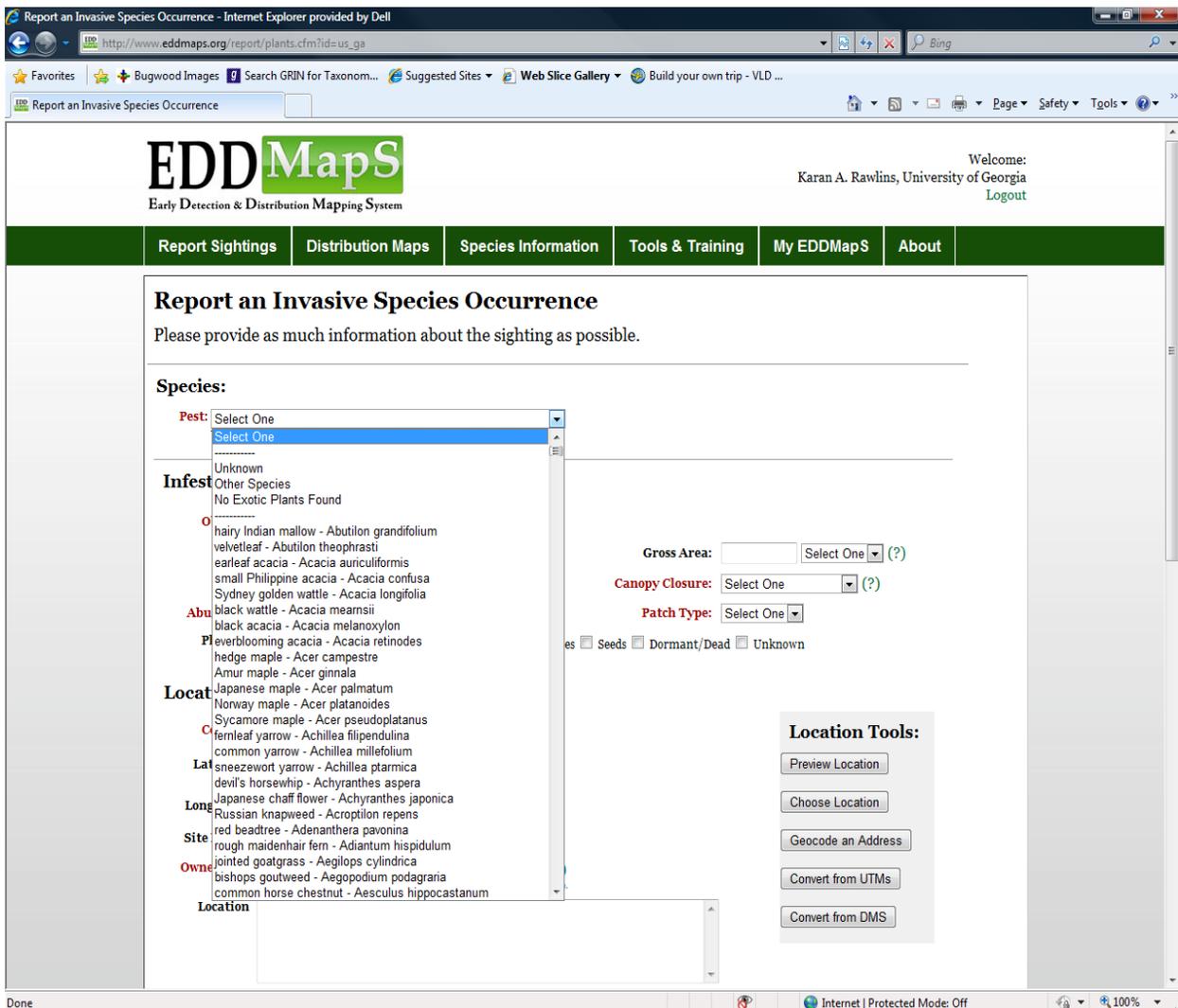
Species:

Pest: If you click on the arrow on the right you will find a drop-down menu with a list of plants.

If the plant you have found is not listed, choose “Other Species.” If you are not sure what the species is, choose “Unknown.”

If you select “Other Species” email the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health at bugwood@uga.edu with the name of the invasive plant not listed on the drop-down menu.

Note: Plants are listed in alphabetical order by scientific name, although the common name is also listed.



Infestation:

Observation Date:

Enter the date you observed the pest plant in the format mm/dd/yyyy.

Note: If the date is entered in different format it may cause an error message to appear.

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence - Internet Explorer provided by Dell
http://www.eddmaps.org/report/plants.cfm?id=us_ga
Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

EDDMapS
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System

Welcome:
Karan A. Rawlins, University of Georgia
Logout

Report Sightings | Distribution Maps | Species Information | Tools & Training | My EDDMapS | About

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

Please provide as much information about the sighting as possible.

Species:
Pest: smallflower morningglory - Jacquemontia tamnifolia
To report a pest not listed, e-mail bugwood@uga.edu.

Infestation:
Observation Date: 10/22/2009 (?)
Infested Area: [Select One] (?) Gross Area: [Select One] (?)
Habitat: [Select One] (?) Canopy Closure: [Select One] (?)
Abundance/Density: [Select One] Patch Type: [Select One]
Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:
County: [Select One]
Latitude: Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (00.XXXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84
Longitude: Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (00.XXXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84
Site Name:
Ownership: [Select One] *If reporting infestation on private land, be sure to have landowner's permission.
Location Description:

Location Tools:
[Preview Location]
[Choose Location]
[Geocode an Address]
[Convert from UTM's]
[Convert from DMS]

Infested Area: Enter only the area that is actually occupied by the invasive species. Do not forget to choose the unit area from the drop-down menu, be it acres, hectares, square feet, or square meters.

Gross Area: Estimate the general area within which the invasive species is found.

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Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

Please provide as much information about the sighting as possible.

Species:
Pest: smallflower morningglory - Jacquemontia tamnifolia
To report a pest not listed, e-mail bugwood@uga.edu.

Infestation:
Observation Date: 10/22/2009 (?)
Infested Area: 25 acres (?) Gross Area: 1 acres (?)
Habitat: [Select One] (?) Canopy Closure: [Select One] (?)
Abundance/Density: [Select One] Patch Type: [Select One]
Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:
County: [Select One]
Latitude: Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (00.XXXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84
Longitude: Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (00.XXXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84
Site Name:
Ownership: [Select One] *If reporting infestation on private land, be sure to have landowner's permission.
Location Description:

Location Tools:
[Preview Location]
[Choose Location]
[Geocode an Address]
[Convert from UTM's]
[Convert from DMS]

This total area may include portions that are not occupied by this species. Again, choose the unit area from the drop-down menu.

Note: This is just to give us or a land manager an idea of the area infested. So your best estimate is fine.

Habitat: From the drop-down menu, choose the description that best describes the habitat within which the invasive plant occurs. If you do not see the habitat listed, choose “Other.” If selecting “Other” email bugwood@uga.edu to explain the unlisted habitat so it can be added to the drop-down menu.

Abundance/Density: Choose the most appropriate answer from the drop-down menu: Single Plant, Scattered Plants, Scattered Dense Patches, Dense Monoculture.

Canopy Closure: Estimate the area of ground covered by foliage of the invasive species.

Patch Type: A single plant or very small group is a point; a fence line or river bank infestation is linear; any other area is a polygon.

Plant Description: Check all that apply by clicking the box to the left of each description: in flower, in fruit, seedlings/rosettes, seeds, dormant/dead, unknown.

County:

Choose the county where the plant was observed from the drop-down menu.

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence - Internet Explorer provided by Dell
http://www.eddmaps.org/report/plants.cfm?id=us_ga

EDDMaps
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System

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Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

Please provide as much information about the sighting as possible.

Species:
Pest: smallflower morningglory - Jacquemontia tamnifolia

Infestation:
Observation Date: 10/22/2009
Infested Area: 25 acres
Gross Area: 1 acres
Habitat: Right-of-Way
Canopy Closure: Trace (Less than 1%)
Abundance/Density: Scattered Plants
Patch Type: Polygon
Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:
County: Tift County
Latitude:
Longitude:
Site Name:
Ownership: Select One
Location Description:

Location Tools:
Preview Location
Choose Location
Geocode an Address
Convert from UTM's
Convert from DMS

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence - Internet Explorer provided by Dell
http://www.eddmaps.org/report/plants.cfm?id=us_ga

EDDMaps
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System

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Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

Please provide as much information about the sighting as possible.

Species:
Pest: smallflower morningglory - Jacquemontia tamnifolia

Infestation:
Observation Date: 10/22/2009
Infested Area: 25 acres
Gross Area: 1 acres
Habitat: Right-of-Way
Canopy Closure: Trace (Less than 1%)
Abundance/Density: Scattered Plants
Patch Type: Polygon
Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:
County: Tift County
Latitude: 31.475963
Longitude: -83.523216
Site Name:
Ownership: Select One
Location Description:

Location Tools:
Preview Location
Choose Location
Geocode an Address
Convert from UTM's
Convert from DMS

Latitude/
Longitude:

There are a couple of ways that you can get this information.

You can GPS the point using a GPS unit. Make sure you set your GPS unit to "NAD83."

Or.....

You can select a location using an online mapping system. Select “Choose Location” to the right under, “Location Tools.” A Google map will appear.

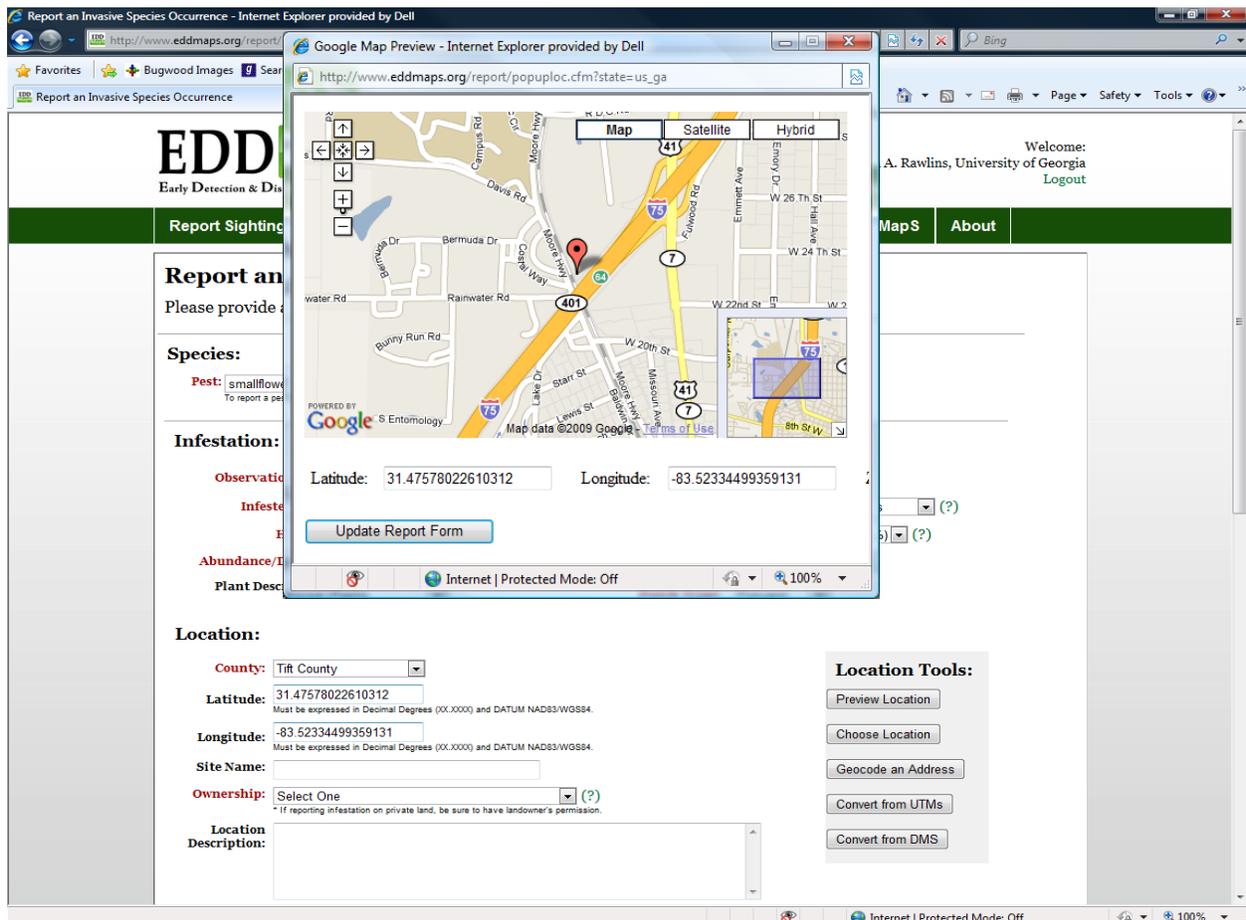
You can choose the normal map view, a satellite image, or a hybrid of the two. Click on the map in the general area of the infestation and you will see a pinpoint at that spot.

Increase the magnification around the point by clicking the “+” sign on the upper left hand corner of the map until you have zeroed in on the site where the infestation was found.

You can adjust the location of the pinpoint by clicking on the appropriate spot on the map. Each time you click, a new pinpoint will appear. When the pinpoint is in the correct spot, select “Update Report Form.”

You will see the correct latitude and longitude entered for you.

Note: Other tools that may be helpful to advanced users are located under “Location Tools.”



Site Name:

If desired, a descriptive name can be given for the site; for example, "Stone Mountain Park North Entrance."

Ownership: From the drop-down menu, select the ownership type for the property on which the invasive plant was found.

Remember, you need permission from landowners to be on private property and map invasive plant locations on private property.

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence - Internet Explorer provided by Dell

http://www.eddmaps.org/report/plants.cfm?id=us_ga

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

Infestation:

Observation Date: 10/22/2009 (?)

Infested Area: 25 acres (?)

Gross Area: 1 acres (?)

Habitat: Right-of-Way (?)

Canopy Closure: Trace (Less than 1%) (?)

Abundance/Density: Scattered Plants

Patch Type: Polygon

Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:

County: Tift County

Latitude: 31.47578022610312
Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (XX.XXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84

Longitude: -83.52334499359131
Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (XX.XXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84

Site Name: Moore Hwy

Ownership: Other/Unknown (?)

Location Description:

- Native American Allotments
- Agricultural Research station
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bonneville Power Administration
- County Government
- U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Department of Defense
- Environmental Protection Agency
- USDA Forest Service Research Station
- National Biological Survey
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Park Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Private Landowner * (is not yours)
- U.S. Soil Conservation Service (pre NRCS)
- State Lands
- The Nature Conservancy (is not yours)
- Tennessee Valley Authority (is not yours)
- University Lands
- United States Forest Service
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (is not yours)
- United States Geological Survey
- U.S. Government (Other Federal Lands) (is not yours)

Upload Images with Your Report:

For verification purposes, take at least two digital images, a close up of the species and one of the site.

Image: (jpg, < 4 mb)

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence - Internet Explorer provided by Dell

http://www.eddmaps.org/report/plants.cfm?id=us_ga

Report an Invasive Species Occurrence

Infestation:

Observation Date: 10/22/2009 (?)

Infested Area: 25 acres (?)

Gross Area: 1 acres (?)

Habitat: Right-of-Way (?)

Canopy Closure: Trace (Less than 1%) (?)

Abundance/Density: Scattered Plants

Patch Type: Polygon

Plant Description: In Flower In Fruit Seedlings/Rosettes Seeds Dormant/Dead Unknown

Location:

County: Tift County

Latitude: 31.47578022610312
Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (XX.XXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84

Longitude: -83.52334499359131
Must be expressed in Decimal Degrees (XX.XXXX) and DATUM NAD83/WGS84

Site Name: Moore Hwy

Ownership: Other/Unknown (?)

Location Description:

Area is along roadway, railroad tracks at Moore Hwy. and I-75 overpass.

Upload Images with Your Report:

For verification purposes, take at least two digital images, a close up of the species and one of the site.

Image: (jpg, < 4 mb)

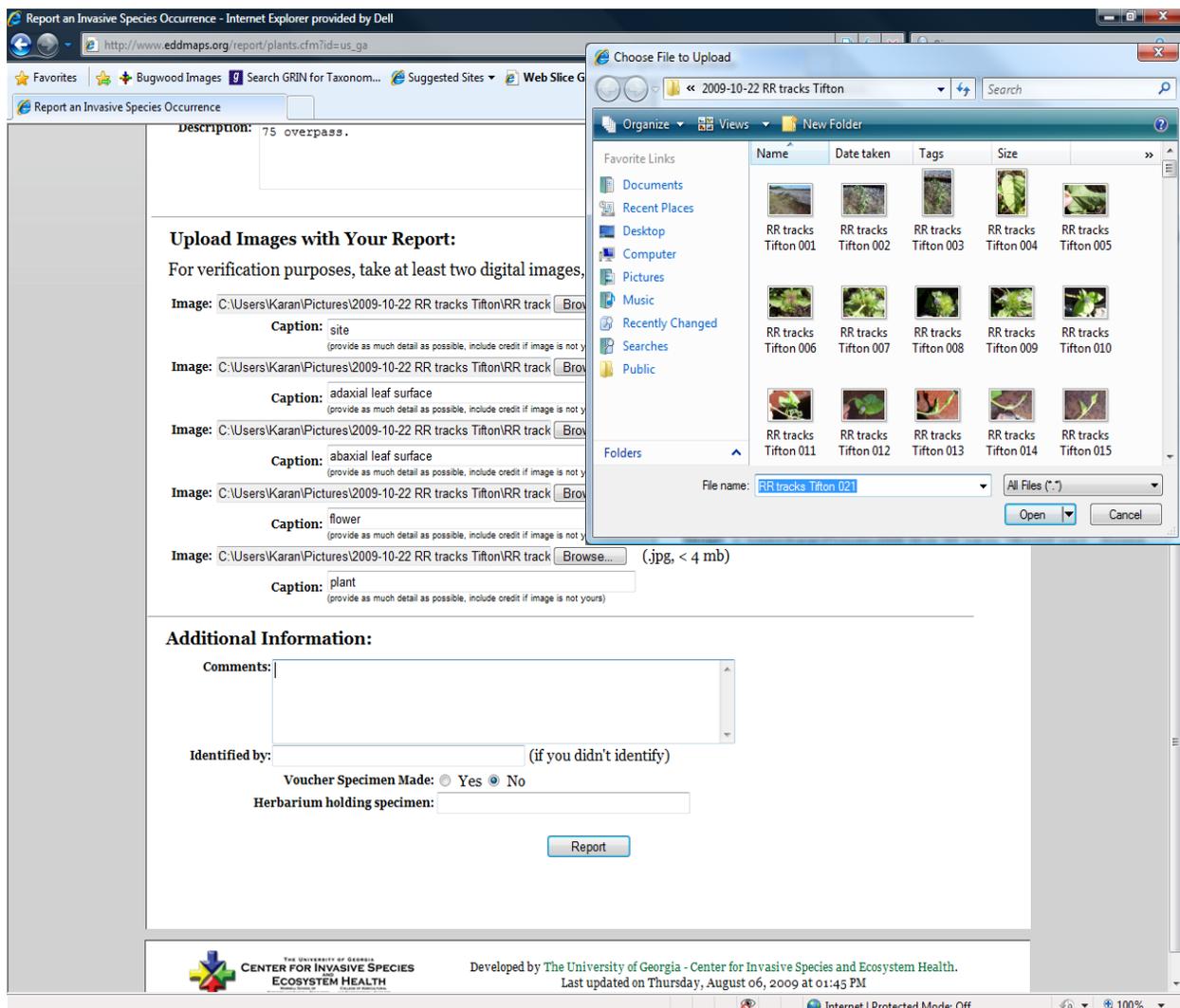
Location Description: Add any information that would aid in relocating the infestation.

Upload Images with Your Report: For verification purposes and to help relocate the infestation images may be uploaded here.

Image: Simply click “Browse” and navigate to the picture on your computer. Click “Open” and the image location will be entered for you. Do this for up to five images. Images must be JPGs and smaller than 4 megabytes in size.

Caption: Add a caption to describe each image. Provide as much detail as possible. Include the photographer’s name if someone besides you took the picture.

Image recommendations: Appropriate images include leaf shape and arrangement, flowers, fruit, roots, and unique features like thorns. Whole plant images showing the habit of the species are also appropriate when included with close-up images. Use a tripod when possible. Take photos with the sun behind you.



Examples of five photos submitted. Show various characteristics, in close enough detail to allow a reviewer to make positive identification of genus and species.



Site



Abaxial leaf surface
(under side);
Adaxial leaf surface
(upper side)



Flower

Plant (whole or
large part of plant)

Additional Information: This area is useful for reports created from herbarium specimens or for which specimens were collected.

Comments: Add any additional comments regarding the voucher specimen, if one was collected. This may include information found on the label.

Identified by: If someone other than you collected a voucher specimen of the invasive plant at this site enter their name here. Otherwise, leave blank.

Voucher Specimen Made: If a voucher specimen was created from this sighting click Yes.

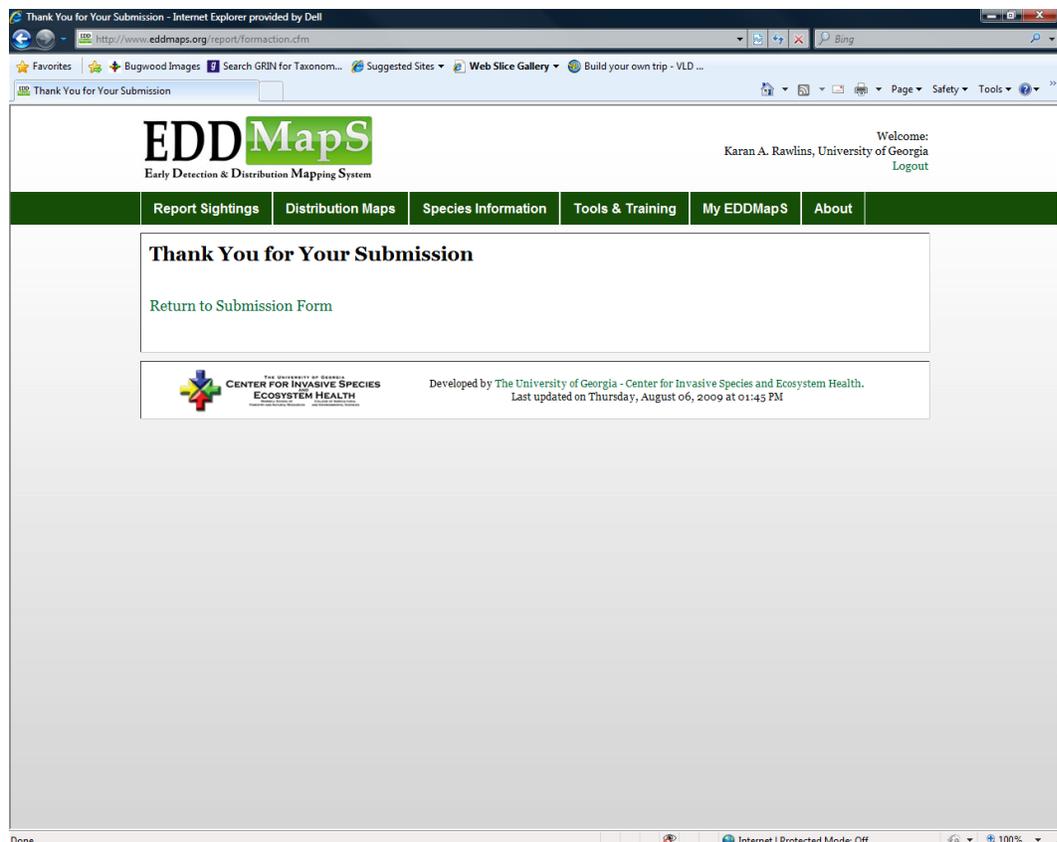
Herbarium holding specimen: Enter the name of the herbarium where the specimen is housed.

Note: See Herbarium Module for information on how to collect, prepare and submit an herbarium specimen.

Herbarium specimens are not required for submitting data to EDDMapS. They add validation to the data you are submitting.

Enter the Report: Select “Report.” The data will be entered into EDDMapS and any images will be uploaded at this time.

Hooray!
You have completed a successful entry into EDDMapS.



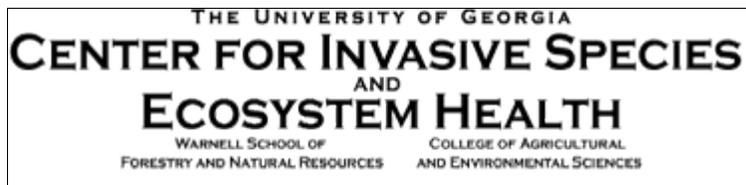
You can now click on My EDDMapS from the selection bar at the top of your screen.

This will take you to your personal EDDMapS page with all your stats.

From this page you can check what you have entered for accuracy.

You can also keep track of how many reports you have collected, how many different species you have reported and how many different counties you have collected in.

NOTE: Photos you think are especially high quality which you submit to EDDMaps can also be submitted to:



selection - James N. Long, Bugwood.org

Barger, C.T. and K.A. Rawlins. 2009. Module EDDMapS. The University of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health, Tifton GA, BW-2009-102. 14p.