

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

EUROPEAN COMMON REED

(*Phragmites australis*)

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?

DESCRIPTION

- Erect perennial grass standing 2-5 m tall.
- Terminate in conspicuous, white plume-like inflorescence.
- Thick, hollow culm 5-15 mm in diameter, surrounded by flat, stiff leaves.
- Deep, dense rhizomatous mats and far-reaching stolons.
- Spread mainly by root fragments, but also by seed; seed viability is typically low.
- Reproductive parts disperse mainly by water currents, heavy machinery and contaminated soil.
- Grows in fresh to brackish (slightly salty) water bodies; coastal marshes, in-land wetlands, ditches, stream banks, and wetted rail lines.
- *Note: Appearance and growth habits are highly variable; DNA analysis is the most accurate method of differentiating between the invasive and native Phragmites.*



REPORT PROHIBITED SPECIES

www.reportaweedbc.ca

1-888-WEEDSBC



PRIMARY THREAT: Tall, dense, impenetrable stands alter hydrologic cycles.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- REPORT sightings.
- SELECT non-invasive plants for your water garden.
- Don't move soil.



DISTRIBUTION IN BC

Confirmed sites limited to Greater Victoria, Metro Vancouver, North and South Okanagan areas.



For more information: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/Plants/prohibited.htm