

# EMERGING INVASIVE ALERT:

## *Cyperus nipponicus*

Japanese Flatsedge (Cyperaceae)

# NYBG

Robert Naczi, New York Botanical Garden  
rnaczi@nybg.org · 9 August, 2024

© 2024. This work is openly  
licensed via [CC BY-NC 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).



### IDENTIFICATION

fruiting stems  
4-20 cm tall



scales pale



fruits with width  
facing spikelet axis



fruits 2-sided



### INVASIVENESS

Native to eastern Asia, where it grows in many habitats. It is aggressive, often weedy, and spreads quickly. In North America, it is expanding its range rapidly, though still quite uncommon. Now is the time to try to eliminate it before it spreads to more sites. Plants are easy to remove, due to their annual habit.

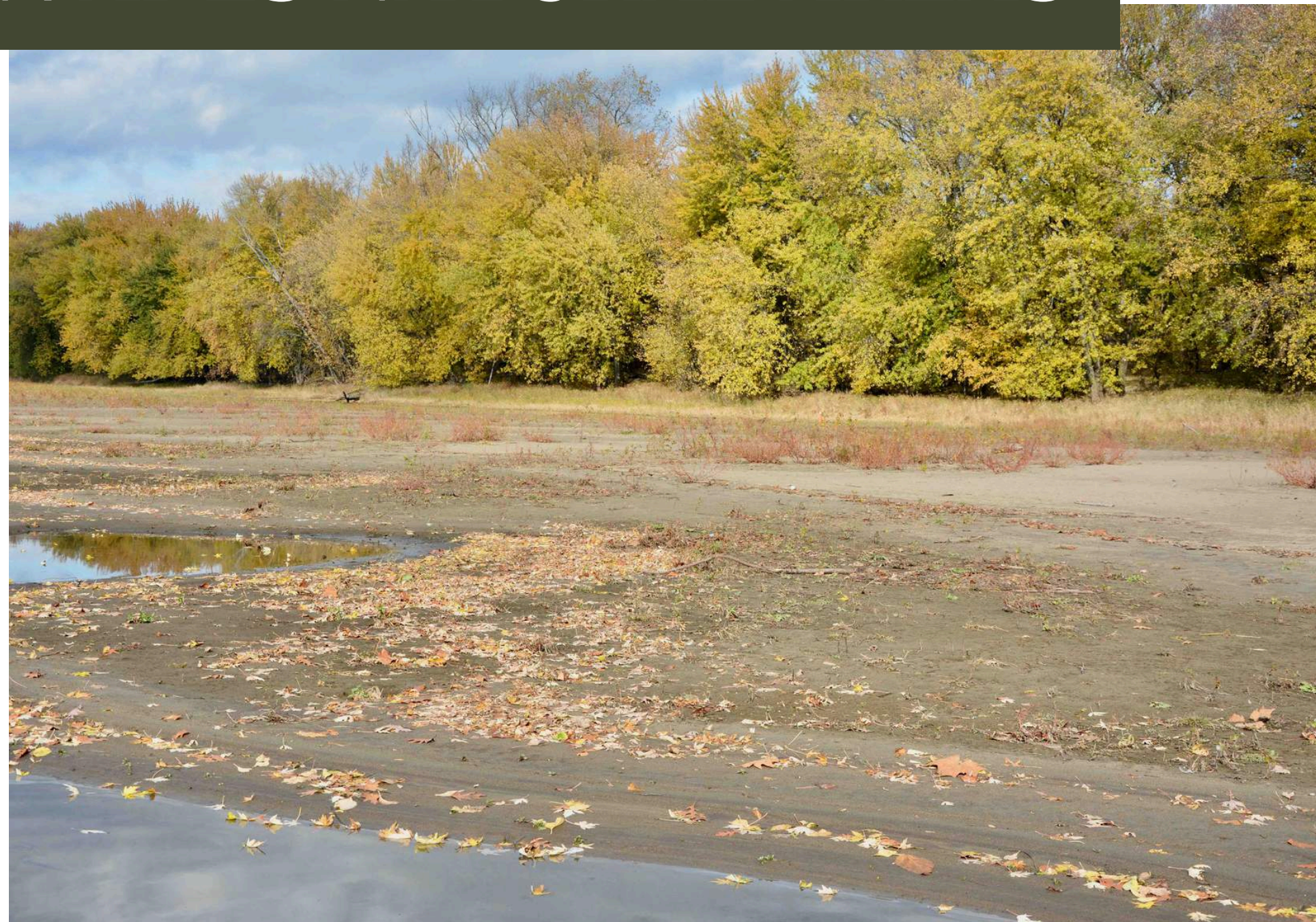
### HABITAT

Often a weed in places with human disturbance, but also invades natural areas hosting rare plants, such as river shores.

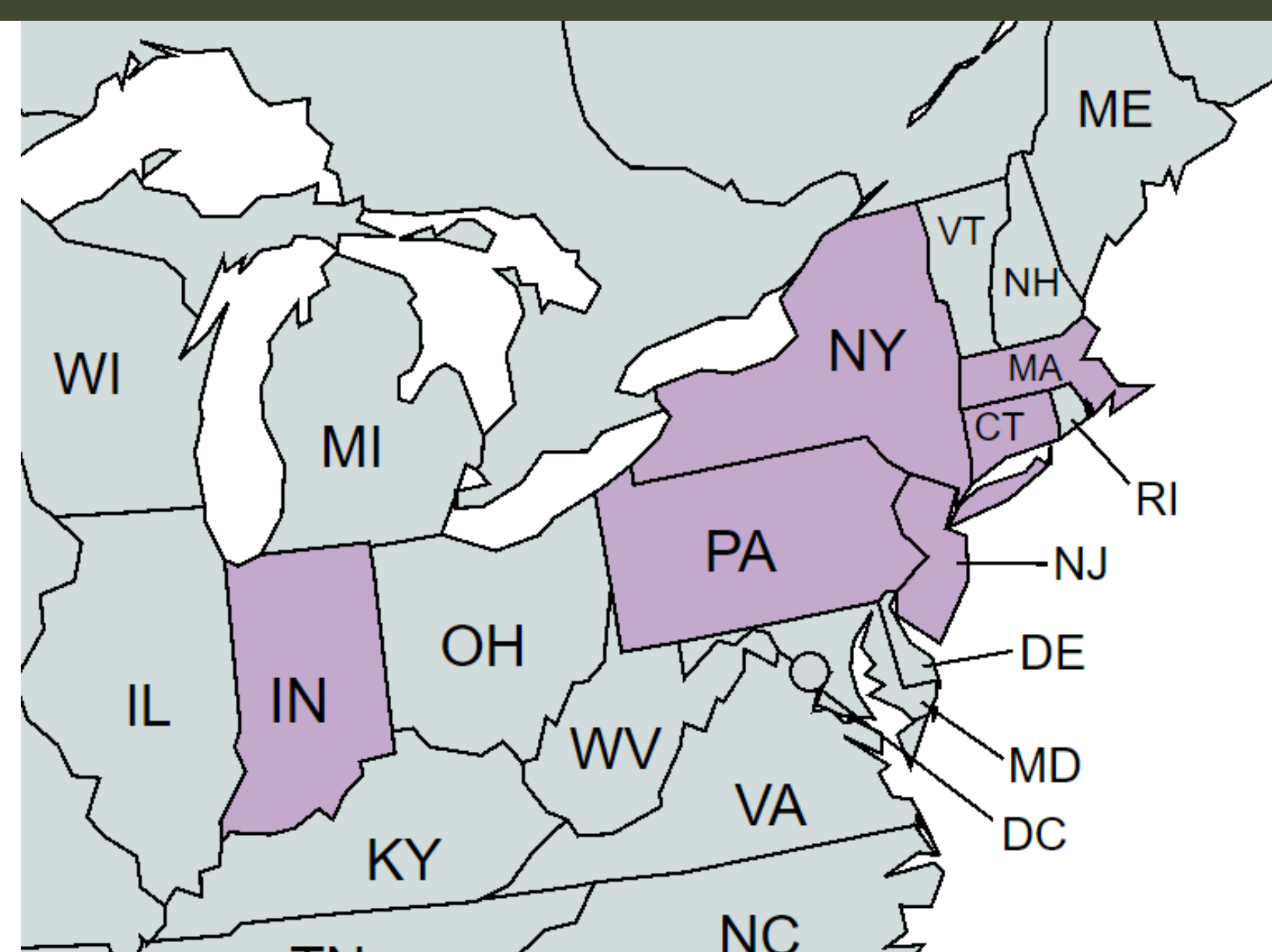
### HOW TO HELP

Report occurrences to your local or state invasive species management agency.

### INVADES NATURAL AREAS



### DISTRIBUTION IN NORTHEAST



### SOURCES

Naczi, R. 2016. Field observations of *Cyperus nipponicus* in Connecticut, 5 November.

Naczi, R. 2017. Portion of Cyperaceae, the Sedge Family: *Cyperus*. In R.F.C. Naczi, J. R. Abbott, and Collaborators, *New Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada*, digital edition. NYBG Press, New York. 25 pp.

We gratefully acknowledge financial support for the New Manual project from Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Hubbard, and the Richard King Mellon Foundation



This work is part of the project to produce *New Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada*, [www.nybg.org/science-project/the-new-manual-of-vascular-plants-project-by-nybg/](http://www.nybg.org/science-project/the-new-manual-of-vascular-plants-project-by-nybg/)