

Didymo Fact Sheet

<DID-EE-MOE>



Photo: Matapedia River Watershed Council (CBVRM)



Photo: Environment Canada

What is it and why should you care?

This alga, also known as “Rock Snot”, has been found in the Yukon and Kathleen rivers, but it may be elsewhere in Yukon.

Didymo is a potential invasive species.

It can degrade fisheries, the aquatic ecosystem, and the look and feel of lakes and rivers.

How do I identify it?

Didymo may be found in both lakes and rivers.

It ranges in colour from brownish yellow to white and is found in shallow water. Though it may look smooth, Didymo feels rough to the touch, like wet cotton wool.

What can I do about it?

Humans are the main way that Didymo is moved around. Boats, trailers, fishing gear, and wading boots made of felt in particular, are some of the main ways in which Didymo, and other aquatic species are moved from water to water. Didymo cells can survive for up to 40 days in felt soles under cool damp and dark conditions.

Make sure you wash and thoroughly dry all of your gear before moving between waters.