

## 2021 November *Guess that Plant*



*Murdannia keisak* (Hassk.) Hand.-Maz., Marsh Dayflower

The November *Guess that Plant* is a recent arrival named marsh dayflower. This species is a non-native invasive that originated in tropical and temperate Asia. The species was transported to the southeast US where it became established in wet farms and rice fields. The plant was first identified in New Jersey around 2010. It was observed on the banks of the Maurice River, Cumberland County. The plant has since spread to other wetland habitats in southern New Jersey. It has been seen in Gloucester and Atlantic counties with new colonies no doubt elsewhere in suitable habitats.

*Murdannia* is a member of the dayflower family, Commelinaceae. It is an obligate, annual wetland species that forms dense colonies spread by seed dispersed in the fall or by plant fragments that re-root. The plant creates masses at the water edge, occupying habitat and competing with our native wetland plants.

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