

*Lemna minuta* Kunth, MINUTE DUCKWEED. Perennial herb, floating aquatic, clonal via fragmentation forming dense colonies, fibrous-rooted, tightly rosetted, of 1–several, coherent, highly reduced, helically alternate, horizontal shoots (fronds), with mother frond producing new daughter fronds successively in 2 lateral pouches (daughter fronds initiated on different days and always unequal), the daughter fronds breaking free to become mother fronds; frond = stem (basal portion) + leaf, highly modified, with 2 pouches, each pouch along edge next to base of frond and containing a deep-seated shoot tip to produce either a daughter frond or an inflorescence, buoyant with internal air chambers, upper surface waxy and  $\pm$  nonwetable, glabrous; adventitious root 1 per frond, from below midpoint, sheathed at tip and without root hairs, white or green on young portion, with visible vascular core. **Stem (stipe):** connecting daughter frond from pouch at base of mother frond, minute, white. **Frond:** at maturity obovate to  $\pm$  broadly elliptic, when free-floating 0.8–4  $\times$  0.5–2 mm, green often senescing colorless, flat and  $\pm$  thin, entire, obtuse at tip, indistinctly 1-veined with vein rarely extending beyond midfrond, upper surface glossy green, smooth or with minute conic papillae along midline; pouches open to or above midfrond, to 2 mm long, opening lens-shaped in face view, with membranous margins on lips, the lips appressed to emerging frond or gaping when chamber empty (frond released); air spaces < 0.3 mm long. **Inflorescence:** in range not observed. January–December (sterile plants only).

Native. Floating aquatic herb common throughout the range on quiet, standing water along creeks and pools. *Lemna minuta* is difficult to identify with certainty, and an observer should always expect to find other species of duckweed that are similar in vegetative condition.

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