

Didymosphenia geminata Identification



If your sample matches three of the "yes" descriptions below, you may have found Didymo.

	YES	NO
Location	mostly clear flowing water with rocky bottom, may be attached to plants	deep silty areas with no rocks or plants, highly colored waters.
Color	tan, light brown or whitish	green or dark brown/black clear or transparent
Texture	clumps or ropy strands, rough cottony feel, fibrous	thin layers, slippery or gelatinous
Appearance	no leaves or roots (BUT may attach to leaves or stems). Sometimes mistaken for fiberglass, toilet paper or tissue.	has leaves or roots looks like an aquatic plant

If you suspect you've found Didymo based on the above descriptions, please send a dime-sized sample* in a small container, zip-lock bag, or folded in a business card, to:

Didymo Identification, Water Quality Division
 103 S. Main St., Bldg 10N, First Floor
 Waterbury VT 05671-0408
 (802) 241 – 3770 or 241 – 3777

Be sure to include your name, address and phone or email so that we may contact you.

Also, please provide a detailed description of where you found your sample: name of the river or stream, the town, and precise location (such as GPS coordinates, nearest road, or a clearly marked map).

* Note: Since Didymo is a diatom, samples DO NOT need to be in water to be stable for identification. Samples can be sent moist or dry.