

## Didymo Report

Didymo slam dunks on our rivers and the world. Didymosphenia geminata is a fresh water alga that is all over. It looks like toilet paper as it floats on the river bottom and it feels like wet cotton. It likes warm and fast water. It kills many of the bugs so fish can't eat them. I have been studying where didymo has been and when it got there.

What is didymo? Didymo has a nickname called "rock snot" and it's a fresh water alga. It forms large colonies or mats on rocks. Where is didymo? It's all over the world except Antarctica!!!!!!!!!!!!!! How did didymo get here? It got here from fishermen. They would go to a river that had didymo and not wash their boots and go to another river that didn't have any didymo and then they would spread it to that river.

Place	Time	What it did
Scotland, Finland, Sweden, and northern china.	Late 1800s and early 1900s.	Discovered
Virginia	1975	Spread there
Europe, north America	1980s	Spread there
New Zealand	2004	Spread there
Poland, turkey, Serbia	2004	Spread there
Waiiau River of South Island, of New Zealand	2004	Spread there
Not confirmed in North Island, N.Z.	November 2006	Not there

Didymo is all over the world and there's nothing we can do except try not to spread it. Unless it becomes a food source for animals or scientists can find a way to stop it, it will keep on spreading. I've learned that didymo forms mats or large colonies on a rock. And I've learned how many places have didymo. I also learned that didymo can't survive in Antarctica because it's too cold in the water. Didymo has impacted the states and the world.

### Bibliography

Rivers, Susan. "Invader of the Month: Archived Invaders." *Invasive Species of Concern in Maryland*. Maryland department of natural Resources, 4 May 2008. Web. 11 Nov. 2009

Spaulding, Sarah. "Increase in nuisance blooms." *Research and Management to Didymo*. United States Department of Environmental Protection Agency, Jan. 2007. Web. 2 Nov. 2009.