

Myriophyllum glomeratum



Myriophyllum glomeratum.
Tasmanian herbarium specimen.

FAMILY: HALORAGACEAE

BOTANICAL NAME: *Myriophyllum glomeratum*, Schindler, *Pflanzenr.* 23: 103 (1905)

COMMON NAME: Clustered water milfoil

COMMONWEALTH STATUS: (*EPBC Act*)
Not Listed

TASMANIAN STATUS: (*TSP Act*) presumed
extinct

Description

An annual marsh herb. **Stems:** The stems are more or less erect, between 3-10 cm tall and approximately 0.5 mm diameter. **Leaves:** The leaves are arranged alternately along the stem and the submerged leaves are long and thin (between 5-6 mm long). Some of the leaves split into three teeth about half way along. Above-water, the leaves are thick and fleshy, long and thin, curved and approximately 2.5 mm long. **Flowers:** The flowers are reddish and are grouped in pairs or threes. Some of the flowers have very short stalks and others are stalkless. There are 4 petals that are between 0.8-1.1 mm long. Flowering occurs from September to January. **Fruit:** The fruit is cylindrical to urn-shaped, golden or reddish brown. **Confusing species:** This species often grows with *Myriophyllum integrifolium*, but can be distinguished by its clusters of fruit and flowers (description from Walsh & Entwistle 1996).

Distribution and Habitat

On the mainland this species occurs in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. In Tasmania, *Myriophyllum glomeratum* was recorded from damp places and in stagnant water in the north of the State (Hughes *et al.* 1989).

Key Sites and Populations

This species has only been recorded once in Tasmania. The collection was made from the Cressy region in 1842.

Known Reserves

This species is not currently known from any reserve.

Ecology and Management

Species of *Myriophyllum* have a large, persistent seed bank. Some species have rhizomes, which enable them to reproduce vegetatively. The plants can generally tolerate fluctuations in water level, however if the area is dry for some time, recruitment will occur from the soil-stored seed bank. *Myriophyllum* species regenerate fairly rapidly after a dry period (J. Smith pers. comm.).

Conservation Status Assessment

There is no immediate need for reassessment of *Myriophyllum glomeratum*.

Further Information

- Hughes, JMR & Davis, GL 1989, *Aquatic Plants of Tasmania*, University of Melbourne Press, Melbourne.
- Walsh, NG & Entwistle, TJ eds 1996, *Flora of Victoria*, Volume 3, Inkata Press, Melbourne.

Tasmanian Distribution

There is no distribution information available for *Myriophyllum glomeratum*.

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