

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Australian Plant Image Index, Photographer CG Wilson, Berrimah, NT



Flower and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, Photographer CG Wilson, Berrimah, NT



Line drawing. USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*. Vol. 2: 76.

## Common name

Cabomba, Fanwort, Carolina Watershield, Fish Grass, Washington Grass, Watershield, Carolina Fanwort, Common Cabomba

## Family

Cabombaceae

## Where found

In still or slow-flowing freshwater to 3 m deep (or sometimes deeper, but it prefers permanent shallow water), in ponds, lakes, dams, channels and quiet streams. Occasionally free-floating. Coastal north of Dapto and Sydney area.

## Notes

**Introduced** aquatic **perennial** herb with branched stems to 10 m long, with white or reddish hairs, rooting at the **nodes** of creeping runners and the lower stems into the substrate. Stems and leaves covered in a thin gelatinous coating. Submerged leaves opposite each other or **whorled**, 3-7 cm in diameter, fan-shaped, deeply **dissected**, feathery, **peltate**. Floating leaves few or absent, usually less than 2 cm long, narrowly oval to lance **head** shaped, margins **entire**. Flowers 6-20 mm in diameter, white or cream sometimes with a pink to purplish tinge, with yellow centres, with 6 '**petals**'. Flowers single. Flowers mainly summer to autumn.

A Weed of National Significance. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions all NSW. Pest plant ACT.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Cabomba-caroliniana> (accessed 6 January 2020)

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This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



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