

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Photographer Richard Hartland, Bridgewater, Vic



Stems with seed cases. Photographer Don Wood, Torrakin



Seeding plants. Photographer Richard Hartland, Bridgewater, Vic

Common name

Water ribbons

Family

Juncaginaceae

Where found

Still to slow-flowing fresh water to 2 m deep, mostly in permanent swamps, lagoons and streams, but withstands extensive periods of dryness. Mainly coast, ranges, and tablelands. Occasionally elsewhere.

Notes

Perennial herb, **rhizomatous**. Flowering and fruiting stem to 1.45 m tall, usually **erect**. Leaves basal, more or less flat and strap-like, arising in tufts from the **rhizome**, floating to erect, 6-350 cm long, to 41 mm wide, the upper parts often floating in long ribbons, thickened and spongy towards the base, with a **sheath** at the base. Flowers greenish, with 6 '**petals**' about 2 mm long, in two **whorls**, in a dense **spike**-like cluster. Fruiting **spikes** to 300 mm long and 30 mm wide, with about 52-320 seed cases. Flowers most of the year. Seed cases globular to broadly pear-shaped to oval, 6.8-14.4 mm long, 6.8-10.9 mm in diameter. Seeds straight to twisted around each other, each with a broad-convex ridge at the top, and often two broad ridges on the sides.

Was *Triglochin procerum*.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Cycnogeton~procerum> (accessed 9 January, 2021)

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