

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem. Australian Plant Image Index, Photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Florida, USA



Stems with flower buds. Photographer Shaina Noggle, unknown place



Shrub. Australian Plant Image Index, Photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Florida, USA

Common name

Ludwigia, Peruvian primrose, Water primrose, Primrose willow

Family

Onagraceae

Where found

Moist or wet areas along creek banks, swampy marshes, and wetlands. Aquatic in stationary or slow-moving water. Sydney area. Rarely elsewhere.

Notes

Introduced deciduous shrub to 4 m high, sometimes floating freely on the water surface. Root and stem fragments can break off and take root again downstream. Suckers from the roots. Stems cylindrical, hairy when young, dark green to brownish, much branched. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, rarely opposite each other, 4–12 cm long, 3–30 mm wide, hairy, with prominent **veins**, tips pointed. Flowers with 4–6 yellow **petals**, each 10–30 mm long, 10–30 mm wide, and 4–5 green **sepals**, which remain on the seed cases at the seeding stage, turning reddish as the seed cases begin to mature. Flowers single, lasting only one day. Flowering: spring to autumn. Seed cases reddish or brownish, hairy, four-angled, 10–25 mm long, 6–10 mm wide, containing thousands of seeds. Seeds sticky.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW. General Biosecurity Duty with additional restrictions in the Central Tablelands, Greater Sydney, and South East areas, NSW

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Ludwigia-peruviana> (accessed 24 January, 2021)

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