

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers on stem. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Kevin Thiele, WA



Leafy stem with flowers. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Kevin Thiele, WA



Flowering plant. Photographer JC Schou, Denmark



Line drawings. i. leaf; j. individual seed case. A. Barley, National Herbarium of Victoria, ©2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board

## Common name

Curly pondweed

## Family

Potamogetonaceae

## Where found

Aquatic. In slowly flowing freshwater, also tolerant of slightly saline water. Often in drains. Widespread but not common.

## Notes

Submerged **rhizomatous perennial** herb with branched, trailing, flattened, stems to at least 4 m long. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, or opposite each other when **subtending** an flower **spike**, 2-10 cm long, 5-15 mm wide, stalkless, thin, translucent, 3-5 principal longitudinal **veins**, margins wavy and with minute teeth, bases blunt to rounded, **stipular sheath** to 5 mm long, enclosing the stem above the **node**, often disintegrating, tips blunt, rarely pointed. Flowers 3-4 mm in diameter, with 4 '**petals**'. Flowers in a 3-14 flowered **emergent** spike 8-20 mm long when in mature seed. Flowers and fruits Nov.-May.

A hybrid species derived from this and **Potamogeton ochreatus** has been described as *Potamogeton x jacobsii*. It was found at Narellan (without either parent), and could occur in other places.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswf&lvl=sp&name=Potamogeton~crispus> (accessed 3 February, 2021)

---

*Author: Betty Wood.*



*Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia (CC BY)*

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



*Android edition*



*iOS edition*