

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stem and leaves. Photographer Maartje Sevenster, Gundaroo, NSW



Flowering stems and leaves. Photographer Dusty, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve, ACT

Common name

Pondweed

Family

Potamogetonaceae

Where found

Aquatic in permanent waterbodies. Widespread.

Notes

Aquatic **perennial** herb, **rhizomatous**. Stems round to flattened in cross section, up to about 3 m long. Leaves **alternating** along the stems, with a **sheath** at the base, hairless. Submerged leaves 6–12 cm long, 12–30 mm wide, thin and translucent, with short stalks, often with slightly wavy margins, tips blunt or tapered. Floating leaves 4–8 cm long, 30–5.5 mm wide, dull, more or less thick and leathery, stalked, with 9–13 main longitudinal **veins**, transverse **secondary** veins indistinct, bases rounded to **cordate**, tips pointed, occasionally blunt. Flowering stems **emergent**. Flowers 3–4 mm in diameter, with 4 '**petals**'. Flower **spikes** about 20–60 flowered, 32–50 mm long (excluding the non-seeding part of the axis) at the seeding stage, and curved down. Flowers and seeds Sep.–Apr.

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

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

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