PLANT FACT SHEET

Najas marina L.

GENUS *Najas* **FAMILY** Hydrocharitaceae

COMMON NAMES Spiny naiad, Holly-leaf Waternymph, Prickly water nymph

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A water plant. It grows as an annual herb. It grows up to 3 m high. The leaves are 5 cm long by 0.5 cm wide. There are large, spine tipped teeth along the edge. The leaves form a sheath at the base. The flowers are of one sex and occur singly in the axils of leaves. Male flowers have a leafy spathe at the base. The flowers are 3-4 mm long. They have one stamen. The female flowers do not have the leafy spathe. They are 3-4 mm long. Flowering and fruiting take place beneath the water surface.

HABITAT

It grows in temperate and tropical places. It grows best in warm places. It grows in lakes with fresh or brackish water. It grows quickly when water temperatures are above 20°C. It can grow in slightly salty water. In Argentina it grows below 500 m above sea level.

NOTES

Also put in the family Najadaceae.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/1142768c-b396-4a8b-83dd-302e7ad29c24