PLANT FACT SHEET

Potamogeton pectinatus L.

GENUS *Potamogeton* **FAMILY** Potamogetonaceae

COMMON NAMES Fennel-leaved pondweed, Sago pondweed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Root, Tubers, Stem

The rootstocks contain starch.
The whole plant is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A herb which grows under water. It keeps growing from year to year. It has long creeping, tuber like rhizomes or underground stems. These can stick 1 m into mud. The stems are 3 m long and branched. The leaves are 1.5-15 cm long by 0.2 cm wide. The base is joined to the sheath. The flower spikes are 1.5-6 cm long. The flower can be above, on, or under the water. The flowers have both sexes. The fruit carpels are 2-4 mm long.

HABITAT

A temperate plant. It grows in moderately deep still water. The water can be 1-4 m deep. It will grow in water from 10°C to 25°C. It can grow in salty water.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed, cuttings or division of the rhizomes. It mostly grows from the tubers.

Harvesting and Seed Production

There can be 36,000 tubers in 24 square metres of plants.

NOTES

There are about 100 Potamogeton species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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