PLANT FACT SHEET

Aponogeton elongatus F. Muell. ex Benth.

GENUS *Aponogeton* **FAMILY** Aponogetonaceae

COMMON NAMES Lace Plant, Australian laceplant, Waterlily

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tuber, Corm, Root

The corms or tubers are cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small plant which grows in water. The leaves are 10-50 cm long by 1-5 cm wide. They are narrow, dark green and crinkled. Leaves are in clusters at the tip of the corm. They are often under the water but are sometimes floating. The floating leaves are smaller. The flowers are on a thin stem 1.5 m long. The flowers are small. They have a scent. The fruit is a follicle 2.5-6 cm long and 2-5 cm wide. There are 2-5 seeds.

Possibly now Aponogeton euryspermus.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in fresh water. It can grow in still or flowing water. It can grow in shallow or deep pools. The water temperature needs to be above 15 °C. In tropical Queensland it grows from sea level to 50 m altitude. It does best in ponds that dry out.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from tubers when it is near the surface of the mud. They can also be grown from seed.

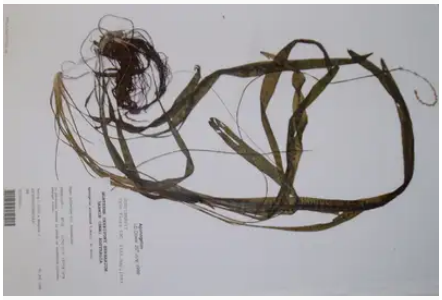
NOTES

The Aponogetonaceae are plants which grow in fresh water. They have rhizomes or corms. There are about 12-44 Aponogeton species. They are tropical and subtropical.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Bindon, P., 1996, Useful Bush Plants. Western Australian Museum. p 41.

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 92

Cooper, W. and Cooper, W., 2004, Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest. Nokomis Editions, Victoria, Australia. p 57

Crawford, I. M., 1982, Traditional Aboriginal Plant Resources in the Kalumburu Area: Aspects in Ethno-economics. Records of the Western Australian Museum Supplement No. 15

Cribb, A.B. & J.W., 1976, Wild Food in Australia, Fontana. p 146

Elliot, W.R., & Jones, D.L., 1982, Encyclopedia of Australian Plants suitable for cultivation. Vol 2. Lothian. p 215

Garde, M., et al, 2003, A Preliminary List of Kundedjnjenghmi Plant Names. Northern Land Council. (Arnhem Land, Australia)

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 30

Lavelle, M., 2008, Wild Flowers of Australia and Oceania. Southwater. p 113

Lazarides, M. & Hince, B., 1993, Handbook of Economic Plants of Australia, CSIRO. p 22

Lim, T. K., 2015, Edible Medicinal and Non Medicinal Plants. Volume 9, Modified Stems, Roots, Bulbs. Springer p 10

Maiden, J. H., 1889, The Useful Native Plants of Australia (including Tasmania). The Technology Museum of NSW, Sydney. p 7

Morley, B.D., & Toelken, H.R., (Eds), 1983, Flowering Plants in Australia. Rigby. p 319

Romanowski, N., 2007, Edible Water Gardens. Hyland House. p 38

Sainty, G.R. & Jacobs, S.W.L., 1981, Waterplants of New South Wales. Water Resources Commission. NSW p 64

Wheeler, J.R.(ed.), 1992, Flora of the Kimberley Region. CALM, Western Australian Herbarium, p 962

Wightman, Glenn et al. 1992, Mangarrayi Ethnobotany: Aboriginal Plant Use from the Elsey Area Northern Australia. Northern Territory Botanical Bulletin No 15. Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory. p10

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/39fbe5ec-22b9-42ac-84bc-ffa2e986d9ab