PLANT FACT SHEET

Myriophyllum aquaticum (Vell.Conc.) Verdc.

GENUS *Myriophyllum* **FAMILY** Haloragaceae

COMMON NAMES Parrot's feather, Diamond Milfoil

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaf tips, Leaves, Branches, Vegetable

The leaf tips are eaten as a vegetable. They are cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A plant which keeps growing from year to year. It grows partly under water. It forms masses of leafy tangled stems. It has stolons or runners and these form roots on the lower nodes. The leaves are in rings of 4-6 from the same level of the stems. The leaves are feathery in appearance. They are pale green. The leaves under the water rot leaving bare stems. Plants are separately male and female. Only female plants are recorded in Australia. Flowers form in the axils of leaves. They occur singly.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate to subtropical plant. It suits warm coastal situations. It grows in pools and swamps. It can grow in still or moving water. It grows in water 2 m deep. It roots in the mud. It grows best in water with high levels of nitrogen. It can grow in water with temperatures between 8°C and 30°C. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 2,000 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 9-11. Tasmania Herbarium.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It spread by fragments of the stem.

NOTES

There are about 60 Myriophyllum species. There are 3 species in tropical America. It can be invasive.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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