PLANT FACT SHEET

Ludwigia repens J. R. Forst.

GENUS *Ludwigia* **FAMILY** Onagraceae

COMMON NAMES Water primrose

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flower, Seed

The leaves and shoots are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A floating or creeping herb. The stem has roots at the nodes. There can also be spongy white floating bodies. The leaves are oval and narrowed on the leaf stalk. They are 2-6.5 cm long and 7-30 mm wide. They are shiny green. The flowers occur singly in the axils of leaves. They have 5 oval petals. These are 1.2-1.8 cm long by 8-12 mm wide. They are white or pale yellow. The fruit is a capsule which is like a cylinder and with grooves. It is hairy and 2.5 cm long. It breaks into 5 valves. These ripen under water. The seeds are rectangular and 0.5-2.5 mm long by 0.7 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in freshwater pools, ditches and rice paddies. It roots in mud. It is found throughout the tropics.

NOTES

It is used in medicine.
In Slovenia possibly in a hot house.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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