PLANT FACT SHEET

Marsilea hirsuta R. Br.

GENUS *Marsilea* **FAMILY** Marsileaceae

COMMON NAMES Short-fruited Nardoo

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Sporocarp

DESCRIPTION

A fern with a long creeping rootstock. It grows 2-15 cm high. The stalks are 2-15 cm long and can occur singly or in clusters. They can be smooth or hairy. The leaflets are 1-2 cm long by 0.5-1.2 cm wide. They are oval or wedge shaped. They are rounded at the tip. The spore body stalks are shorter than the capsules. The capsules are 0.4-0.5 cm long and at right angles to the stalk. They are densely hairy. They have 2 equal teeth at the base.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in inland regions in Australia. It also grows near the coast in the north. It is usually in shallow water and swamps. It tolerates most frosts.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by division.

NOTES

There are about 50-60 Marsilea species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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