



PLANT FACT SHEET

Spirodela polyrhiza (L.) Schneiden

GENUS *Spirodela* FAMILY Araceae

COMMON NAMES Great duckweed, Duckmeat, Zi peng

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows in water. The fronds are free floating. 1-10 stick together. They are flat and green on the upper surface but often red underneath. They have pouches at the base. They produce daughter fronds and sometimes a flower. There is a small scale which covers the place where it is attached to the root.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in ponds and lakes and rice fields in warm places. In China it occurs between sea level and 2900 m altitude. It occurs throughout the tropics. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

NOTES

There are 3 *Spirodela* species. It is used in medicine. Also in the family Lemnaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET <https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/f5ec6370-fb84-4e32-91c4-8e38c6f47f75>