

Nuphar lutea

COMMON NAME

yellow water lily, brandy botte

FAMILY

Nymphaeaceae

AUTHORITY

Nuphar lutea (L.) Sibth. et Sm.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Perennial floating leaved plants with shiny, 'lily' shaped leaves and bright golden yellow flowers that are held above the water surface.

DISTRIBUTION

Central Hawke's Bay and South Canterbury, targeted for eradication.

HABITAT

Still and slow flowing water bodies.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout spongy, tuberous rhizome that is up to 10 cm across. The floating leaf is ovate, with entire leaf margins, a deep sinus, and up to 30 cm long. The submerged leaf is very thin and lettuce-like. The flowers are golden yellow, cup shaped and have 5 to 6 sepals (that are petal like) while the petals are inconspicuous. The flower is up to 6 cm across with a strong alcoholic aroma. The flower is held above the water surface by a stout stalk. Fruit flask-shaped, green 2-3 cm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Nymphaea spp., water poppy (*Hydrocleys nymphoides*), marshwort (*Nymphoides geminata*), and fringed water lily (*Nymphoides peltata*). *Nymphaea* species have a much rounder leaf and lack the thick spongy rhizomes that are so distinctive in yellow water lily. Water poppy, marshwort, and fringed water lily have much smaller floating leaves (up to 10 cm across) than the large leaves of yellow water lily, and also lack the distinctive rhizome.

FLOWERING

Spring to summer.

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

Summer-autumn

LIFE CYCLE

Rhizome fragments and seed.

YEAR NATURALISED

1975



ORIGIN

Native to Eurasia and northern Africa

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental pond plant

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Can be controlled manually, mechanically or herbicidally depending on situation.

NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord. The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](#).

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Champion et al (2012). Freshwater Pests of New Zealand. NIWA publication.

<http://www.niwa.co.nz/freshwater-and-estuaries/management-tools/identification-guides-and-fact-sheets/freshwater-pest-species>.

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

DiTomaso JM, EA Healy (2003). Aquatic and riparian weeds of the west. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3421, 462pp.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/nuphar-lutea/>