



Myriophyllum aquaticum

WATERMILFOIL FAMILY

Haloragaceae

COMMON NAMES

English: Brazilian water milfoil, parrot's feather, water feather

Indonesia: bulu burung, paris

Vietnam: rong xương cá, rong cổ lông chim

DESCRIPTION

Evergreen, rooted aquatic plant with terminal, leafy shoots emerging 20–50 cm above the water surface; stems yellowish green (2–5 m long and 5 mm thick), roots forming at the joints.

Leaves: Pale green or bluish green, feather-like, finely divided, elongated or oval with deeply divided margins (30–45 mm long and 15 mm wide), arranged in groups of 4–6 at the tips of the stems.

Flowers: Inconspicuous, solitary in axis of leaves.

Fruits: None

ORIGIN

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Paraguay

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornament

INVADES

Drainage ditches, irrigation channels, dams, ponds, swamps, wetlands, lakes and slow-moving rivers or streams.

IMPACTS

Dense infestations exclude native plants and have multiple negative impacts on water transport, fisheries and recreation, and can increase the abundance of mosquitoes. The high tannin content also means that fish do not eat the plant. In California, control costs of this weed over a two-year period were US\$ 215,000 (Anderson, 1993). Additional impacts would be similar to those of water hyacinth.



Myriophyllum aquaticum (Vell.) Verdc.

