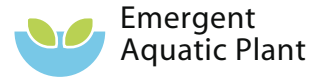


Great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*)



Flowers are erect sausage-shaped spikes

Great reedmace is an erect, perennial freshwater aquatic herb that grows up to 3m tall, very similar in appearance to the native raupo (*Typha orientalis*). It grows on the margins of water bodies in shallow water on a range of different substrates.

Stems grow upright from thick, creeping rhizomes to form a dense mat. Great reedmace has wide, flat sheathing leaves of a pale greyish-green colour. It flowers in early summer producing dark brown to black erect sausage-shaped flower spikes. The one-seeded fruit is about 1cm long with hairs rising near the base.

Plants are dispersed by wind or water borne seed.

Great reedmace is not known to be established in New Zealand, although it may occur in cultivation. Any sightings should be reported at once to your Regional Council.