Marshwort* (Nymphoides geminata)





Heart-shaped leaves up to 8cm across



Distinctive fringed wing around the petals

* Also known as Entire Marshwort

Marshwort is a freshwater aquatic, robust, bottom-rooted perennial with long, branched, creeping stems that lie just below the water surface producing dense mats of floating leaves.

This water lily-like plant has heart-shaped leaves up to 8cm across. The bright yellow 5-lobed flowers appear in clusters above the water surface from November through to April. Each flower has a distinctive fringed wing around the petals. Each flower only lasts for a day. Seed is not produced in New Zealand.

Dispersal to new water bodies appears to be by intentional plantings, although stem and even leaf fragments can grow to form new plants.

Marshwort is of extremely limited distribution in New Zealand but has the potential to spread and become a very serious problem. Any new sightings should be reported immediately to your Regional Council.