

Primrose willow (*Ludwigia peploides* subsp. *montevidensis*)



Foliage and flower

Primrose willow is a perennial that grows at the edges of still and slow flowing water bodies and spreads out onto the water, forming an often thick floating mat. It is established in scattered areas throughout the northern North Island especially in the lower Waikato River.

The reddish stems are creeping or floating and send out white spongy roots at the nodes. The glossy, oval, red-veined leaves occur alternately along the stem. Its conspicuous flowers have five bright yellow petals and appear during the summer. Seed pods are woody, sausage shaped structures which float and are dispersed by water movement or contaminated drainage machinery after separation from the plant.

Small infestations can be cleared by hand.

Contact your Regional Council for further advice on control.