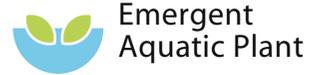


Sagittaria (*Sagittaria platyphylla*)



Foliage and flower

Sagittaria is an emergent perennial aquatic weed that grows up to 80cm in height. It is found in flowing or still freshwater and in marshes and swamps.

The plant has long creeping rhizomes that produce small tubers similar to *Sagittaria sagittifolia*. The large (up to 25 cm long by 8 cm wide), lance-shaped emergent leaves are held above the water surface on rigid stems. There are also strap shaped submerged leaves up to 50 cm long by 2.5 cm wide. Sagittaria produces small white flowers above the water between November and March. The seed can be carried by water, wildlife, machinery and humans, and ditch cleaning may assist the spread of root fragments and tubers.

Small infestations can be cleared by hand or machinery but all the roots, rhizomes and tubers must be removed and plant material disposed of carefully.

This plant is sometimes grown in garden ponds but is relatively rare in the wild. Any suspected new infestations should be reported to your Regional Council.