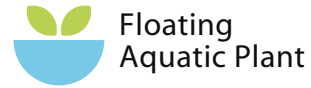


# Yellow water lily (*Nuphar lutea*)



*Leathery, green floating leaves*



*Flowers smell strongly of alcohol*

Yellow water lily is a perennial aquatic plant that grows from the waters edge to 2m in depth in lakes and slow flowing streams.

This lily has large, leathery, green floating leaves, 40 cm long by 30 cm wide, and lettuce-like submerged leaves. The leaves arise from massive spongy rhizomes that are up to 10 cm in diameter. The bright yellow flowers are 4 - 6 cm across, bright yellow, smell strongly of alcohol, and rise well clear of the water surface. The flowers produce green flask-shaped fruit which split open to release viable seeds.

Contaminated machinery could spread the seeds but most spread is through deliberate plantings.

**This species is of very limited distribution in New Zealand and could spread to and become a problem in other areas. Any possible new infestations should be reported immediately to your Regional Council.**