

Wanted!

Yellow water lily

Nuphar lutea also known as brandy bottle



Identification

- Big (30 cm long) oval floating leaves with a deep incision at one end.
- Stalked buttercup-like flowers 6 cm across that protrude above leaves.
- As the name 'brandy bottle' suggests, flowers have a strong alcoholic scent.
- 2–3 cm long, green, flask-shaped fruit, containing hundreds of long-lived seeds.
- Stout submerged tuber-like rhizome up to 10 cm thick.



Nuphar lutea leaves and flowers.
Photo: P. Champion 2013

Similar species

Most water lilies have similar leaves but can be distinguished from yellow water lily by their rounder leaves.

Weed alert! Have you seen it?

So far only two populations are known in Canterbury. If you think you have found yellow water lily, please contact Environment Canterbury.

Calling from Christchurch: (03) 353 9007

Calling from any other area: 0800 324 636
(0800 EC INFO)



Nuphar lutea rhizome.
Photo: P. Champion 2013



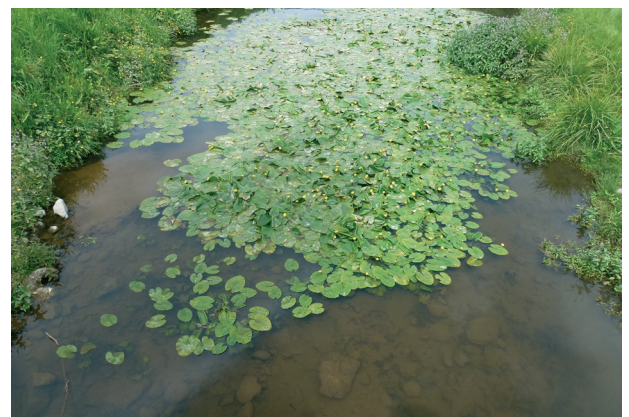
Nuphar lutea distinctive bottle-shaped fruit.
Photo: P. Champion 2013

Where is it found?

Shallow (up to 2 m deep) nutrient-rich streams, lakes, reservoirs, ponds and canals.

Why is it a problem?

Yellow water lily is a serious weed and eradication in New Zealand is desirable. It is very adaptable and can even survive droughts. Water lily propagates from rhizomes and seeds and can be spread by drain cleaning machinery. It can rapidly invade shallow drains, ponds and lakes. Dense mats of leaves covering the surface of waterways may cause die-off of submerged native water plants, excessive water loss from ponds and oxygen deprivation. The rhizomes may clog up hydro power intakes, reduce recreational values of waterways and impede water flow leading to siltation.



Nuphar lutea creek infestation.
Photo: P. Champion 2013



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