

Fringed Water-Lily

(*Nymphaoides peltata*)



Habitat: Aquatic, Freshwater
Family name: Menyanthaceae



Fringed Water-Lily Infestation

Description: Fringed Water-lily is a perennial, floating aquatic plant that commonly inhabits slow moving eutrophic waters such as lakes, rivers, reservoirs, canals, and ponds usually 1-2 m deep. Optimal substrates include clay, organic mud (sapropel), or a mixture of both.

Long shoots produce nodes, which can possess 2-7 roots and one leaf per node.

This branching pattern can repeat itself in this way several times, so that one plant alone can cover a considerable area.



Fringed Water-Lily Infestation



Fringed Water-lily Infestation

Flower

Fringed Water-lily Leaf

Leaves are circular or heart shaped with diameters 3-12 cm, and grow along the stem in opposite and unequal patterns. The leaves also have slightly wavy margins, are green to yellow-green in colour, and often have purple-coloured undersides with darkish glandular spots.

Leaves are normally floating on the water surface, yet can be submerged 1 cm below during the winter.

Leaf length varies with composition, depth and the time of the year.



Fringed Water-lily Flower

Leaf size changes depending on the season and water depth.

In the winter, only small, non-floating leaves remain.

In spring and early summer, small folded leaves

appear, which gradually unfold with increasing light & temp.

Flowers have five vibrant yellow petals measuring 2.5-4 cm diameter when fully open, attracting insects for pollination. Each petal bears a broad membranous margin on both sides, wavy to slightly ruffled, creating, irregular fringe.



Floating Leaves

Roots grow along the bottom of slow-moving bodies of water



approx. 0.5-4 meters deep, and have long, branched stems below the surface.

Stolons (*stems that form roots*) creep in and along the bottom layer and can be divided into long and short shoots, which morphologically differ only in the length of internodes.

Seeds are released from the fruits at the end of the season and form floating chains.



Fringed Water-lily Seeds



Fringed Water-lily Roots

The seeds can stay afloat on the surface due to a coating of a weak hydrophobic substance and by the marginal hairs.

Undisturbed buoyant Fringed Water-lily seedlings can float for more than three months, enabling dispersal to other areas within the same body of water.