

Utricularia geminiscapa

COMMON NAMES

bladderwort

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Sprawling submerged plant often floating just under the waters surface, with finely divided thread-like leaves with tiny round bladders (often black).

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial, free-floating aquatic, often smothering other submerged plants or floating just under the waters surface. Stolons filiform, sparingly branched; stems up to 60 cm long, c. 0.5 mm diam., terete, glabrous, internodes

SIMILAR TAXA

Utricularia australis (rare native species mostly in northern North Island) is superficially similar and at one time *U. geminiscapa* was mistakenly known as this species. The distribution ranges of these species do not currently overlap.

DISTRIBUTION

Restricted to Westland (Westport to Haast).

HABITAT

Colonises acidic shallow water in lowland bogs, fens and pakihi.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

DETAILED TAXONOMY

FAMILY

Lentibulariaceae

AUTHORITY

Utricularia geminiscapa Benj.

ECOLOGY

FLOWERING

Summer to autumn

FRUITING

Summer to autumn

YEAR NATURALISED

1975

ORIGIN

North-eastern USA and Canada

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Likely to be accidental, possibly contaminated mining machinery



TOLERANCES

Survives only in very wet places.

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Not usually controlled in New Zealand.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Water fowl spread seed. Accidental spread.

OTHER INFORMATION

ETYMOLOGY

utricularia: A small bladder

NVS CODE

UTRGEM

REFERENCING AND CITATIONS

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Champion et al (2012). Freshwater Pests of New Zealand. NIWA publication.

<http://www.niwa.co.nz/freshwater-and-estuaries/management-tools/identification-guides-and-fact-sheets/freshwater-pest-species>.

Heenan, P.B.; de Lange, P.J.; Knightsbridge, P.I. (2004). *Utricularia geminiscapa* (Lentibulariaceae), a naturalised aquatic bladderwort in the South Island, New Zealand. NZJ Bot 24: 247-251.

Salmon, B. (2001). Carnivorous plants of New Zealand. Ecosphere Publications, Auckland. 303 pp.

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/utricularia-geminiscapa/>

PDF DATE

02 November 2024