

# Caltha palustris

## COMMON NAME

Marsh marigold, king cup

## FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

## AUTHORITY

Caltha palustris L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## DISTRIBUTION

Naturalised exotic. Currently known from scattered sites in the Waikato, Wellington and Canterbury regions

## HABITAT

An uncommon weed of lowland ponds, slow flowing streams and muddy ground. Commonly cultivated, whereby it sometimes spreads from gardens into nearby waterways

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout, perennial herb. Stems leafy, permanently erect, or sprawling with age and producing roots and shoots at nodes. Basal leaves: lamina 5-125 × 10-190 mm, yellow-green to green (often flushed with red), rounded to ovate, reniform, or cordate, margins entire or crenate to dentate. Inflorescences 1-7-flowered. Flowers 10-45 mm diameter; sepals yellow or orange, 6-25 mm. Follicles 5-25, spreading, sessile, ellipsoid; bodies 8.0-15.0 × 3.0-4.5 mm; style and stigma straight or curved, 0.5-2.0 mm. Seeds elliptic, 1.5-2.5 mm.

## SIMILAR TAXA

None that are naturalised in New Zealand

## FLOWERING

Throughout the year

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## FRUITING

Throughout the year

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from rooted pieces and daughter offsets, In New Zealand plants spread mostly by vegetative means although viable seed is produced and some seedlings have been seen in the wild.

## YEAR NATURALISED

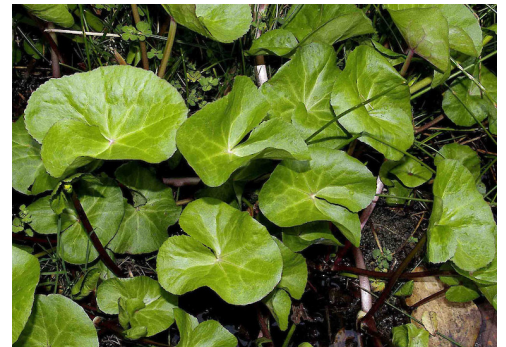
1999

## ORIGIN

Europe



Caltha palustris, in cultivation. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Caltha palustris, in cultivation. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## ETYMOLOGY

**caltha:** From the Greek kalathos 'goblet', refers to the form of the flower

**palustris:** From the Latin palus 'swamp', meaning growing in swamps

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (28 March 2012). Description by P.J. de Lange.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Caltha palustris* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/caltha-palustris/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/caltha-palustris/>