

*Myriophyllum aquaticum* (Vell.) Verdc.

Fam: Haloragaceae

Parrot's Feather

**Synonyms:** *Myriophyllum brasiliense* Cambess., *Myriophyllum proserpinacoides* Gillies, *Enydria aquatica* Vell.

**Ecology:** Parrot's Feather is found in nutrient-rich static or slow-flowing water. The stoloniferous submerged stems produce weakly trailing, glaucous emergent stems which together form dense mats. The stems or stolons survive submersed in winter and can sprout rapidly in spring. The species spreads by fragments which can root easily. In the Netherlands this species is no longer in trade as a pond plant.

**Threat:** Parrot's Feather can form a dense vegetation that can hinder water circulation and displace native vegetation.

**Control:** Parrot's Feather needs to be removed as completely as possible, avoiding fragmentation.

**Identification / similar species:** Parrot's Feather can be mistaken for other water-milfoils (*Myriophyllum* spp.). The emergent sprout of Parrot's Feather is dense and the emergent leaves are pinnate covered with a blue layer of wax. The stem under water is red and above water it is green. It is the only water-milfoil which commonly counts six leaves in one whorl.

This species is on the list of invasive alien species of Union concern ('the Union list') pursuant to regulation (EU) no.1143/2014.

