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Ceratophyllum demersum

[Synonyms : *Ceratophyllum apiculatum*, *Ceratophyllum asperum*, *Ceratophyllum cornutum*, *Ceratophyllum demersum* var. *apiculatum*, *Ceratophyllum demersum* var. *oxyacanthum*, *Ceratophyllum oxyacanthum*, *Ceratophyllum tricuspidatum*, *Ceratophyllum tuberculatum*, *Ceratophyllum unicorne*, *Dichotophyllum demersum*]

RIGID HORNWORT is a deciduous aquatic perennial. Native to Europe (including Britain) and North America, it has minute, whitish flowers.

It is also known as Aquatic herb, Cedar moss, Common hornwort, Coontail, *Cornifle émergée* (French), *Cyrnddail* (Welsh), Fish blankets, Horned pondweed, *Hornsärvi* (Swedish), Hornweed, Hornwort, Morassweed, *Nasu* (Telugu), *Rožkatec ponorený* (Slovak), *Růžkatec ostnité* (Czech), *Růžkatec ponořený* (Czech), *Sarvikarvalehti* (Finnish), *Sheoyala* (Bengali), *Shinbilan* (Arabic), *Shivala* (Sanskrit), and *Sivara* (Hindi).

The plant sinks in Autumn and rises in Summer.

Demersum means ‘submerged or under water’.

This is one of the species that can choke waterways rapidly. Natural help has been found however as in Arkansas it has been shown that Chinese grass-carp can keep the plant’s advance under control.

Medicinally, some Indian remedies have used the plant to treat scorpion stings, and some gall bladder disorders.