

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Potamogeton natans

[Synonyms : *Potamogeton floridanus*, *Potamogeton hibernicus*, *Spirillus natans*]

BROAD-LEAVED PONDWEED is an aquatic perennial. Native to Europe it has shiny floating leaves and very narrow submerged leaves with small green flowers.

It is also known as Batterdock, Broadleaf pondweed, *Červenavec plávajúci* (Slovak), Common pondweed, Devil's spoons, *Drijvend fonteinkruid* (Dutch), *Dyfrllys Llydanddail* (Welsh), *Dyfrllys Nawf* (Welsh), Floatingleaf pondweed, Floating pondweed, *Gäddnate* (Swedish), Pickerel weed, *Rdest vzplývavý* (Czech), *Schwimmendes Laichkraut* (German), *Svømmende Vandaks* (Danish), Tench, and *Uistinviita* (Finnish).

The flowers are pollinated by the wind.

Natans is Latin (float, swim) meaning 'floating'.

The starchy underground stem, which is said to have a nutty taste, has offered emergency rations.

Some authorities suggest that, despite invasive qualities which could need to be contained, this pondweed can be cultivated in ponds as an oxygenator with the added advantage that fish welcome it as sanctuary in which to spawn.