

SOME LOCAL WATERPLANTS SUITABLE FOR CULTIVATION IN PONDS AND CONTAINERS

HABIT FOR CONTAINERS KEY

Surface	Floating, not attached
Edge	Can be allowed to dry out, or can handle shallow water
Shallow	Water level of 5 - 10 cm
Deep	Water level of 15 - 30 cm or more

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	HABIT FOR CONTAINERS	HEIGHT
<i>Bacopa monnieri</i>	Bacopa	Edge	Surface
<i>Carex brunnea</i>	Greater Brown Sedge	Edge	Small
<i>Cyperus haspan</i> subsp. <i>haspan</i>	Haspan Flat-sedge	Shallow	Medium
<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	Knobby Club-rush	Edge	Medium
<i>Juncus prismatocarpus</i>	Branching Rush	Edge	Small
<i>Lepironia articulata</i>	Grey Rush	Deep	Tall
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i> subsp. <i>montevidensis</i>	Water Primrose	Shallow	Surface
<i>Marsilea hirsuta</i>	Short-fruit Nardoo	Edge	Small
<i>Nymphoides indica</i>	Water Snowflake	Deep	Surface
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Shallow	Tall
<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>	Triangular Club-rush	Deep	Tall
<i>Spirodela oligorrhiza</i>	Thin Duckweed	Surface	Small

WATERPLANTS FOR CONTAINERS



Native Plants Sunshine Coast
www.npqsuncoast.org

CULTIVATION OF WATERPLANTS IN CONTAINERS

Possibly the easiest types of container plants to grow are waterplants. This group of plants includes many large and small flowering plants, sedges and rushes, grasses, ferns, and water lilies - anything that grows naturally near water or in water.

Any container that holds water will make a good home for a waterplant. The space you have available will determine the size of the container, and thus, the size of the plant you choose. Small plants can live happily in old plastic butter or margarine containers, bigger plants in ice cream containers or take-away food containers. Or you can purchase any shape or size of beautiful container from most nurseries. Most of these will have drainage holes - which you will need to plug.

Be aware that the more space you give waterplants, the bigger they will grow and the more they will spread. So if you have room for a large tub, you can grow the largest of the sedges or grasses or a beautiful water lily.

Once you have decided what plant you might like to grow, all you need to know for success is where these plants grow in nature. Are they found around the drier edges of creeks? Then they require a container filled with soil, and about 1.5 cm left at the top for water. The shallow-water growers require a pot mostly filled with soil and about 3 - 5 cm left for water. The last category is deep water growers, requiring a pot with a little soil, and 15 - 20 cm of water. Waterplants are generally not too fussy about their potting soil.

Mosquito wrigglers in your pond can be controlled by the introduction of small numbers of native fish species including the Firetail Gudgeon (*Hypseleotris galii*) and the Pacific Blue Eye (*Pseudomugil signifer*).

The keys to success for growing some common Sunshine Coast waterplants are listed overleaf. Local native plant nurseries sell a variety of these plants. Enjoy a new type of container plants - waterplants.



Nymphoides indica
Water Snowflake



Ludwigia peploides subsp. *montevidensis*
Water Primrose



Juncus prismatocarpus
Branching Rush



Bacopa monnieri
Bacopa



Ficinia nodosa
Knobby Club-rush



Schoenoplectus mucronatus
Triangular Club-rush



Lepironia articulata
Grey Rush