The National Biodiversity Data Centre

Floating pennywort Hydrocotyle ranunculoides

Species profile

Habitat:	Freshwater.
Distribution in Ireland:	Very localised to two counties in the north east of
	Ireland.
Status:	Established.
Family name:	Apiaceae.
Reproduction:	Plant reproduces by producing stolons (stoloniferous).

Identifying features

Green leaves and waxy in appearance.
Circular and kidney shaped leaves that appear from nodes along
the horizontal stem.
Long and fleshy.
Rare, small and pale white to yellow in colour, followed by small dry, round fruits.



Green kidney shaped leaves © GBNNSS Crown Copyright 2009



Invasive: High impact





Floating pennywort infestation © GBNNSS Crown Copyright 2009



Please report your sightings of this species at: http://invasives.biodiversityireland.ie



Floating pennywort

Threats

Can outcompete native species for food and space.

Blocks water-bodies that can cause areas to be vulnerable to flooding.

Deoxygenates water which can impact on fish and other fauna.

Species can grow quickly, up to 20cms a day.

Similar species

Marsh pennywort *(Hydrocotyle vulgaris)* native. Hairy pennywort *(Hydrocotyle moschata)* non-native.

Marsh pennywort

Smaller with stalk attached to centre of leaf like an umbrella

Comparison between marsh and floating pennywort $\ensuremath{\mathbb{O}}$ GBNNSS

Floating pennywort

Larger with stalk attached between lobes of kidney-shaped leaf



Floating pennywort taking over a waterbody © GBNNSS Snowdonia National Park Authority

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta The Heritage Council



Produced with funding from The Heritage Council and the EPA STRIVE Programme 2007-2013 View Ireland's distribution of this species on http://maps.biodiversityireland.ie

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