



Potamogeton ochreatus

Common Name(s):

blunt pondweed

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Indigenous. New Zealand: North, South, Auckland Islands. Also Australia and South-East Asia

Habitat:

Coastal to lowland in slow moving waters such as rivers, streams, also found in lakes and ponds, especially near lake outlets

Features*:

Aquatic, submerged, rhizomatous perennial herb. Rhizome short, invested with closely set fibrous stipules and roots. Branches erect, at first simple bearing long leaves, then branching up to eight times at leaf axils, branchlets short, produced in spring and elongating in autumn, sometimes rooting from nodes. Stipules to 20 mm long, free, open, obtuse, disintegrating into fibres with age at older nodes (fibres derived from close-set nerves). Leaves all submersed, sessile; lamina 15–100 × 2–5 mm, entire, linear-oblong, obtuse to slightly emarginate, only slightly narrowed to base, membranous, longitudinal nerves 8, fine and close, one in each half usually stronger than the rest. Inflorescence a densely flowered spike up to 15 mm long. Peduncles 20–40 mm long, simple, slender, arising from axils of upper leaves within the short branchlets. Achenes c.3.0 × 2.5 mm, flattened on sides, keel ± 3-ridged, beak rather well-developed, curved.



Caption: *Potamogeton ochreatus*

Photographer: Rohan Wells,
NIWA

Flowering:

November - April

Fruiting:

December - May

Threats:

Not Threatened

***Attribution:**

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (16 February 2012). Description adapted from Moore & Edgar (1970)

References and further reading:

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2226