



Gymnocoronis spilanthoides

Common Name(s):

Senegal tea

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Aquatic: Emergent. The plant grows in wet marshy soils and at water margins, Plant grows in wetland communities in still or flowing water.

Features*:

Perennial aquatic herb to 1+ m high. Roots finely fibrous, also aerially from stem nodes. Stems erect at first, becoming prostrate, branching and rooting at nodes, 1-1.5 m long, 5-10 mm diam at first, to 20 mm with age, hollow, inflated, floating. Leaves paired with opposite stalks joined at stem, 50-200 x 25-50 mm, lance-shaped, dark green, serrate, slightly wavy. Flowerhead clover-like, with many thin white florets, Nov-Apr. Seed yellow-brown, 5 mm diam. Plant dormant over Winter, dies back to rootstock if chilled, resprouts in Spring.

Flowering:

December, January, February, March, April, May.

Fruiting:

summer/autumn

***Attribution:**

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

References and further reading:

Champion et al (2012). Freshwater Pests of New Zealand. NIWA publication. <http://www.niwa.co.nz/freshwater-and-estuaries/management-tools/identification-guides-and-factsheets/freshwater-pest-species>.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=4031



Caption: Habitat of *Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*

Photographer: Paul Champion



Caption: Flowering *Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*

Photographer: Paul Champion