

Moneywort

Lysimachia nummularia

Description

Rounded leaves and creeping habitat distinctive throughout growing season.

Habit

Herbaceous creeping perennial growing to 60 cm (1.3 ft), forms dense low mats ranging from 5-10 cm (2 in) in height.

Leaves

Opposite, rounded, resemble small coins, simple, 0.25-1.5 in long, occur on short petioles, upper surfaces have widely scattered, glandular, red to black dots.

Stems

Stalk about the same length as the leaves.

Flowers

Yellow in color and dotted with dark red; 5 petals (occasionally 6), 3/4-1 in wide, stalk about the same length as the leaves, solitary from the leaf axils; blooms June through August.





Fruits and Seeds

Small capsule, 1 celled, spherical, splits vertically. Seeds very tiny, 0.5 mg, elliptic and 1 mm long. Capsule may contain 1-5 seeds.

Habitat

Native to Europe and western Asia. Found in open wetlands, floodplain forests, wet meadows, and along lakes, ponds, rivers and streams.

Reproduction

Vegetatively by stems, unknown mechanism for dispersing over longer distances; fragments may be dispersed by water.

Similar

Common gypsyweed (*Veronica officinalis*); Ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*); Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) are all similar in their creeping nature, not when flowering.

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Hand-pulling when practical, making sure to remove all stem and root fragments; prolonged submergence; establishment of native grasses to shade it out; No chemical herbicides have been found effective.

Credits

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