



European waterclover

Marsilea quadrifolia

Description

Available as a water garden and aquarium plant.

Habit

Aquatic; rooted fern that grows at depths of up to 30 cm (1 ft); forms monotypic stands. Roots at and between the nodes.

Leaves

On long petioles, resemble those of a four-leaf clover, may be floating or emergent.

Stems

Thin; green in color.

Flowers

Non-flowering.

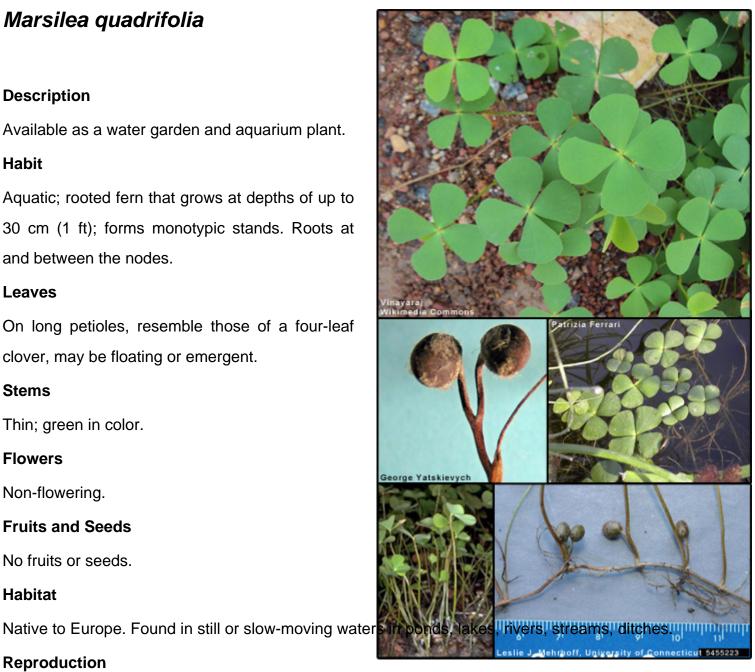
Fruits and Seeds

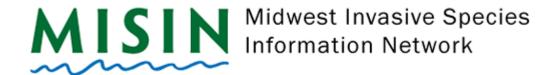
No fruits or seeds.

Habitat

Reproduction

Vegetatively and by its sporocarps which may be dispersed by waterfowl and other animals.





Similar

Dwarf waterclover (Marsilea minuta) and Rough waterclover (Marsilea hirsuta).

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Clearing off boats and other water-related equipment will help prevent spreading.

Credits

The Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) has partnered with MISIN to provide the information in this fact sheet. Species images and/or information were used with permission from "A Field Identification Guide to Invasive Plants in Michigan's Natural Communities" and "A Field Guide to Invasive Plants of Aquatic and Wetland Habitats for Michigan.