

45

Agriculture Protection Board  
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# LAGAROSIPHON



**T**his plant has the potential to obstruct irrigation channels, freshwater lakes and river systems. It is a declared plant (noxious weed) and may not be imported or kept in Western Australia. *(continued overleaf)*

Photo Credit: NSW Water Resources Commission.

# LAGAROSIPHON

**L**agarosiphon (*Lagarosiphon major* (Ridley) Moss) is a potentially dangerous weed of waterways in Western Australia. When established it can obstruct irrigation channels, freshwater lakes and river systems. In New Zealand, Lagarosiphon has become a major pest blocking the intake filters to hydro electric generating plants. Lagarosiphon is a native of southern Africa. It has been naturalised in Europe, England and New Zealand. Lagarosiphon is a declared plant

(noxious weed) in Western Australia. It cannot be imported into the state or kept here and all plants present must be destroyed. This is best done by drying out and burning the plants.

**Description:**

Lagarosiphon is a perennial, submerged aquatic weed. It has stiff tapered leaves, about 16 mm long and 2mm wide curving back towards the stem. The stems are about 3 mm in diameter and quite brittle. The plant spreads mainly by vegetative reproduction. However

some flowers are produced on separate plants in summer above the water surface.

***Urgent action is essential to eradicate isolated patches of Lagarosiphon to prevent the weed getting established. Suspect plants should be reported to the Agriculture Protection Board, telephone PERTH (09) 367 0111 or any country officer of the Agriculture Protection Board or Department of Agriculture.***