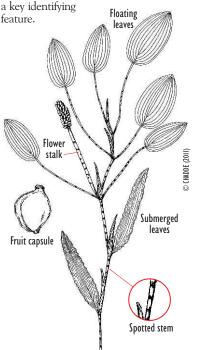


SIZE: Up to 60 cm long. LEAVES: Two types. Submersed leaves are narrow, green, lance-shaped, and have wavy edges. They are 8-15 cm long, 1-3 cm wide and have 9-15 veins. Floating leaves are stout, oval or heartshaped (indented at the base), 4-8 cm long, 2-5 cm wide, and with 21-35 veins. STEM: Simple, green, rarely branching, and with black spots on the stem and

leaf stalks. FLOWERS: Cylindrical spikes (2-4 cm long) at the top of 5-12 cm long flower stalks (peduncles). The spikes are composed of dense greenish flowers. The flower stalk is slightly thicker than the stem and attaches directly to it.

FRUITS: Egg-shaped seeds, 3-5 mm long with a small beak on one end, flattened sides, and three raised lines (keels) running from the base to the tip. **NOTES:** This plant grows in the water (aquatic). Its name comes from its noticeable black spots,









© DAVID MAZEROLLE Floating leaves MTRI ACPF Survey © PAT HUDSON

Flower spike

## **Habitat:**

Open shallow water in muddy lakes and

**Interesting point:** This plant is rare throughout much of its range and is thought to be "critically imperilled" or "imperilled" in many states. Outside of NS, the only Canadian record is a historic collection from Lake Erie, Ontario.

Similar species: Largeleaf Pondweed (Potamogeton amplifolius) has wider submersed leaves (4-6 cm) which are strongly arching, with 25-50 veins.

