
Sagittaria pygmaea

Nomenclature:

Family: Alismataceae

Species: *Sagittaria pygmaea* Miq

Common Names: pygmy arrowhead and dwarf arrowhead; zweig-pfeilkraut (German); urikawa (Japan)

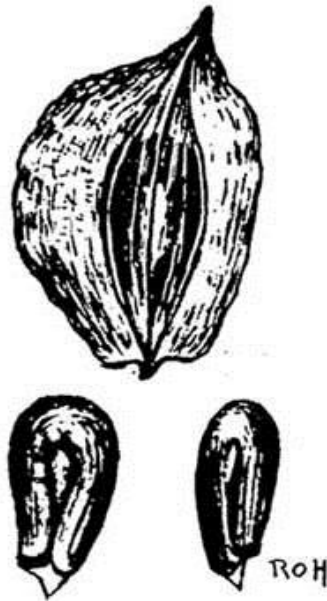
Bayer Code: SAGPY

Description: Annual or perennial aquatic plant with short rhizomes terminating in tubers. Leaves all basal, linear or linear-lanceolate, 10–15 cm long, 5–8 mm wide, gradually narrowed to a sheath at the base. Flowering stems 10–25 cm high, few-flowered, the flowers in racemes. Pistillate flower solitary, sessile on the lowest node; the staminate flowers few, on pedicels 10–30 mm long. Petals white rounded to obovate, 8–10 mm long. Achenes 4 x 3.5 mm to narrowly obovate, compressed, and wide-winged on both margins, beak horizontal. Seed itself 2 x 1 mm, striate from the base, rimmed (Häfliger and Scholz, 1982).

Numata and Yoshikawa (1975) describe it as a plant of warm temperate to subtropical regions.



Sagittaria pygmaea
Häfliger and Scholz, 1982



Sagittaria pygmaea
Reed, 1977

Distribution: Listed as “serious” in Japan; “common (weed) in Taiwan;” and “present (as a weed but not ranked)” in China (Holm *et al.*, 1979)

Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China (Reed, 1977)

China (Wang *et al.*, 1990)

China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan (USDA, 2008)



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Biology and Ecology: *Sagittaria pygmaea* is recorded by Holm *et al.* (1979) as a principal weed of Japan. In China, a combination of *Juncellus serotinus* and *S. pygmaea* reduced rice yield by 55 percent (Wu JingLun and Zhou HengChang, 2000). In Korea, *S. pygmaea* is among the most serious weeds of mechanically transplanted rice (Chae JeCheon and Guh JaOck, 1999) and in butachlor-treated rice (Park KwangHo, 1999). In Japan, Harada and Sumiyoshi (1990) include *S. pygmaea* among the most troublesome perennial weeds of rice. Chiang and Leu (1987) describe *S. pygmaea* as one of the most serious weeds of rice in Taiwan. It is regarded as a noxious weed and prohibited entry in Australia (Australia, 2000). *Sagittaria pygmaea* is a serious weed of rice in several Asian countries, is not readily controlled by standard herbicide treatments, and poses a significant threat to rice cultivation in the United States. *Sagittaria pygmaea* also has the potential to invade wetlands.

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