



**FLOATING PENNYWORT** (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*), also known as greater water pennywort, originates from America. It was first recorded in Cornwall in 2003 but after control by the Environment Agency is now believed extinct. It is a hairless plant that grows at the water margins and spreads into the water to form dense mats of floating vegetation. It grows in still or slow flowing water bodies, especially nutrient rich ditches and ponds. It can be free floating or rooted. Stems grow horizontally emerging out of the water. The fleshy leaves are rounded or kidney-shaped and up to 18 cm in diameter but are more typically 2 to 7 cm wide. The leaf margins turn inwards where the stem joins the leaf edge. The flowers are inconspicuous.



Marsh pennywort      Floating pennywort  
Photo: RPS Group Plc



Marsh pennywort  
Photo: ukwildflowers.com

### DO NOT CONFUSE WITH

- Native marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*) has leaves that are completely circular with an indent in the leaf where it joins the stem. Marsh pennywort leaves are smaller (usually 1-5 cm wide), thicker, fleshier and scarcely lobed. For marsh pennywort the leaf-stalk arise from the middle of the underside of the leaf (parasol-like). Marsh pennywort never floats on water so is limited to the water margins, swamps and marshes.