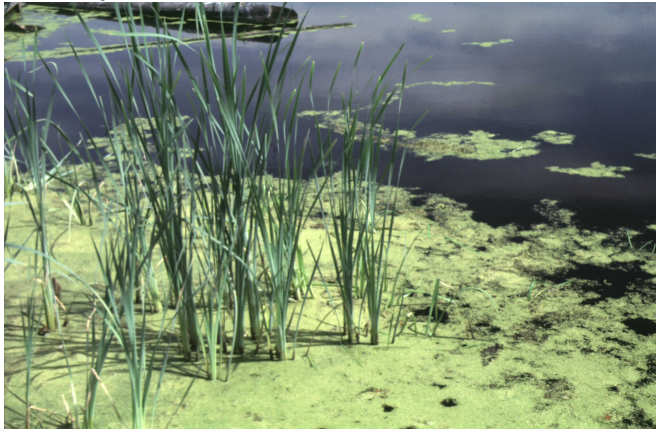


**Wolffia columbiana**

Lemnaceae  
Columbia watermeal

Scott Sundberg

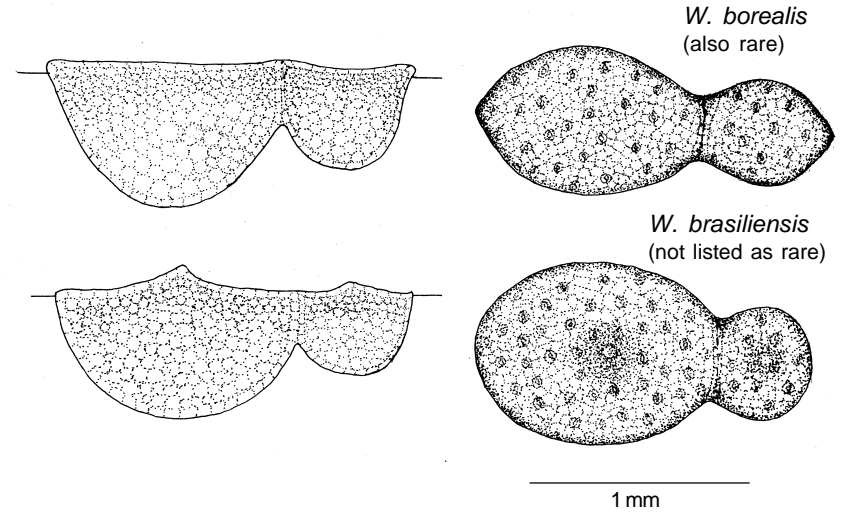
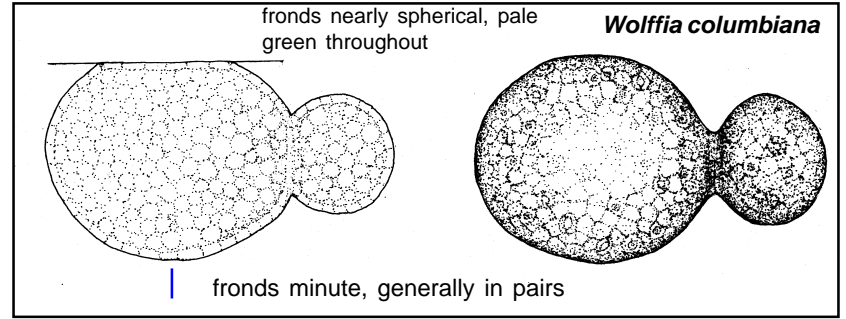


David H. Wagner



Columbia watermeal plants growing with larger duckweeds.

Scott Sundberg



This is one of the world's smallest flowering plants.

Miniscule, floating aquatic plants consisting of "fronds," these generally in pairs; roots absent. **Fronds** nearly spherical; widest part below the surface of the water, 0.5-1.4 mm long, 0.4-1.2 mm wide, 1-1.3 times as long as wide, 1-1.3 times as deep as wide; with 1-10(30) stomata, pale green and translucent on the surface. **Flowers** rarely seen, hermaphroditic, minute.

**Lookalikes**

- W. borealis* ..... fronds boat-shaped, flattened on much of upper surface, 0.3-1 times as deep as wide, cells in upper part dark green
- W. brasiliensis* ..... fronds boat-shaped, with bump (papilla) on other wise nearly flat upper surface, 0.3-1 times as deep as wide, cells in upper part dark green

**differs from featured plant by**

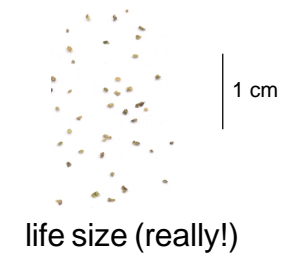
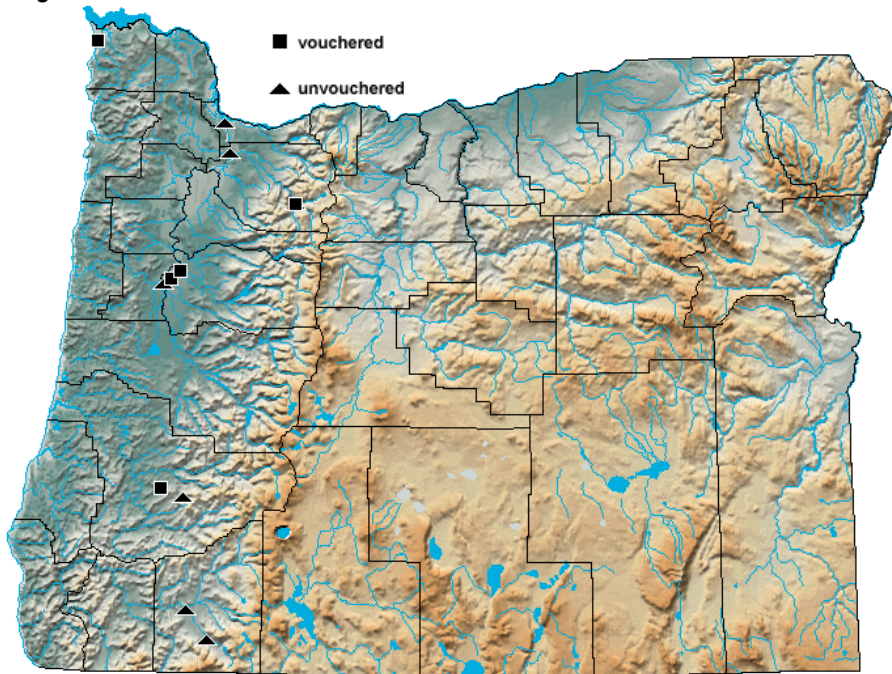


## ***Wolffia columbiana* H. Karst.**

Columbia watermeal

PLANTS symbol: WOCO

August 2019 status ORBIC: List 2



**Distribution:** West of the Cascade Mountains; California; temperate to subtropical areas of North America (especially on the East Coast) and South America.

**Habitat:** Freshwater ponds and slow flowing ditches and streams in which water is rich in organic material. Occurs in natural ponds as well as in log and sewage treatment ponds.

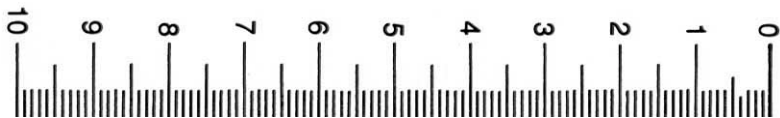
**Elevation:** 0—500 m

**Best survey time** (plants floating and larger populations present): June-December

### **Associated species:**

*Lemna* spp. (duckweeds)

*Spirodela polyrrhiza* (greater duckweed)



**Oregon Flora**

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