

## Marsh Forget-me-not

*Myosotis scorpioides* L.

### Synonyms

*Myosotis palustris* (L.) Nath.

### Description

Marsh forget-me-not is a rhizomatous, aquatic, creeping perennial plant with a fibrous root system, often forming adventitious roots where the stem meets the soil. Flowers are small, blue, and lobed with the petals fused basally into a bright yellow tube.

### Similar Species

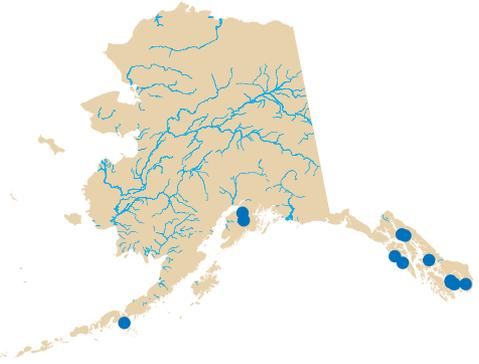
The Alaska state flower, the native forget-me-not (*Myosotis asiatica* (Vesterg.) Schischkin & Sergievskaja), can be differentiated by the teeth of the calyx that are much longer than broad, rather than equally long and broad as for the marsh forget-me-not. Another similar non-native species is the woodland forget-me-not (*Myosotis sylvatica* Ehrh. ex Hoffmann), which is commonly grown in Alaska gardens. This species, which can escape cultivation, can be distinguished by its spreading, hooked calyx hairs.

### Management

Control options for marsh forget-me-not have not been investigated.

### Notes

Folklore says that a concoction made of parts of the forget-me-not will harden steel.



USDA Forest Service photo by Tom Heutte

Family: Boraginaceae

Marsh Forget-me-not



*KULAK photo by Paul Busselen*