

# Lakeshore Garden Centres

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## Bigfoot Water Clover



### Bigfoot Water Clover

*Marsilea macropoda*

Height: 8 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 8a

Other Names: Clover Fern, Largefoot Pepperwort

#### Description:

A vigorous perennial presenting attractive, four-leaf clover like leaves that eventually will form large mats in wet sand or mud; great for poorly drained, shady sites, edges of ponds, or bog gardens; a spore producing plant that does not flower



*Bigfoot Water Clover foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### Ornamental Features

Bigfoot Water Clover's attractive tomentose fan-shaped compound leaves emerge chartreuse in spring, turning bluish-green in colour with hints of silver throughout the season on a plant with a spreading habit of growth.

#### Landscape Attributes

Bigfoot Water Clover is a dense herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Bigfoot Water Clover is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Water Gardens
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens

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### Planting & Growing

Bigfoot Water Clover will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It prefers to grow in moist to wet soil, and will even tolerate some standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.

Bigfoot Water Clover is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.

This plant is not reliably hardy in our region, and certain restrictions may apply; contact the store for more information.