

Dictionary (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/hydrophytes>)  
 Thesaurus (<http://www.thesaurus.com/browse/hydrophytes>)  
 Translator (<http://translate.reference.com/translate?query=hydrophytes>)

hydrophytes



(<http://dictionary.reference.com/slideshows/hannukah#hanukkah>)

# hydrophyte (<http://static.sfdict.com/staticrep/dictaudio/H04/H0471500.mp3>)

[**hahy**-druh-fahyt]

Word Origin

noun

1. a plant that grows in water or very moist ground; an aquatic plant.

## Origin

1825-1835

1825-35; hydro- (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/hydro->)<sup>1+</sup> -phyte  
 (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/-phyte>)

## Related forms

**hydrophytic** (<http://static.sfdict.com/staticrep/dictaudio/H04/H0471600.mp3>) [hahy-druh-**fit**-ik] (Show IPA), adjective

**hydrophytism**, noun

How do you  
Hannukah?

Dictionary.com Unabridged

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## British Dictionary definitions for hydrophyte

# hydrophyte

/ˈhaɪdrəʊˌfaɪt/

noun

1. a plant that grows only in water or very moist soil

## Derived Forms

**hydrophytic** (ˌhaɪdrəʊˈfɪtɪk) adjective

Collins English Dictionary - Complete & Unabridged 2012 Digital Edition

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Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012

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## hydrophyte in Science

### hydrophyte

(<http://static.sfdict.com/dictstatic/dictionary/audio/ahsd/H/H0033300.mp3>)

(hīˈdrə-fīt') (<http://content.dictionary.com/help/dictionary/ahsd/pronkey.html>)

A plant that grows wholly or partly submerged in water. Because they have less need to conserve water, hydrophytes often have a reduced cuticle and fewer stomata than other plants. Floating leaves have stomata only on their upper surfaces, and underwater leaves generally have no stomata at all. Because water is readily available, hydrophytes also have a reduced root system and less vascular tissue than other plants (which also makes plant parts less dense and helps them float). Hydrophytes tend to have less supportive tissue as well, since they are buoyed by water. Many species of hydrophytes (such as the Eurasian milfoil) have divided leaves that have less resistance to flowing water. The lotus, water lily, and cattail are hydrophytes. Compare mesophyte (</browse/mesophyte>), xerophyte.

The American Heritage® Science Dictionary

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