

**The South Lancashire Flora**  
**(Vascular Plants Family 009 Salviniaceae)**

Populations usually decline dramatically following severe winter frosts.

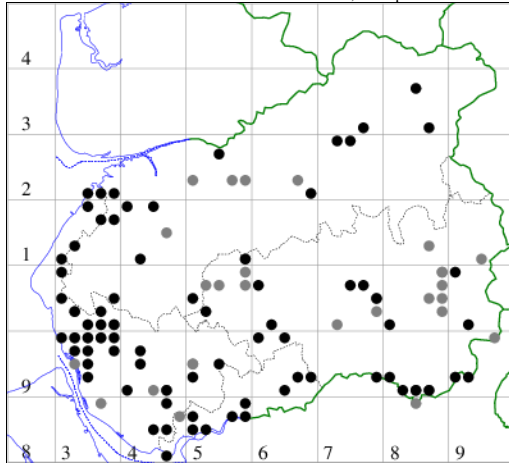
**LEPTOSPORANGIATE FERNS**      **TRUE FERNS**

**SALVINIACEAE**                      Water Fern family

*Azolla filiculoides* Lam.                      Water Fern



Hesketh, Southport DP Earl 2008



**Status & distribution:** Neophyte-naturalised, INNS; now widespread and increasing in frequency especially in the lowland districts.

**Earliest record traced:** Blackburn area (SD62, c. 1970).

**Habitat:** Ditches, ponds and along the canal network.

**Comments:** Native to Tropical America. This species can greatly increase in abundance and at times has been prolific on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal between Maghull and Seaforth and as shown below along the Sankey Canal, Widnes (2019).

