

BRAZILIAN ELODEA

Egeria densa

Hydrocharitaceae, the waterweed family

Category: EDRR

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FACTSHEET INFORMATION

Summary of Invasiveness

- Brazilian elodea is a submerged aquatic plant that has the ability to form large, dense mats within waterbodies.
- The plant is capable of changing aquatic habitats by altering hydrology and depleting oxygen.
- Brazilian elodea can out-compete and displace native species, decreasing ecosystem biodiversity and function.
- Damage caused by Brazilian elodea can negatively impact recreational opportunities such as swimming, fishing, and boating.

Description

- Submerged aquatic perennial.
- Stems are slender and branched.
- Leaves are linear to oblong with finely toothed margins in whorls of 4-6.
- Floating flowers are white with 3 petals and a yellow center.
- Seeds are not produced in western U.S.

Introduction and Movement

- Brazilian elodea is native to South America and was introduced through the release of aquaria contents into waterways.
- It can inhabit canals, rivers, ponds, and lakes and will easily spread through fragmentation with plant materials washing downstream or catching a ride on recreational equipment.

Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify Brazilian elodea and report any sightings.
- Always research aquarium plants before purchasing.
- Never release aquarium contents or water garden species into surface waters and dispose of unwanted vegetation by burning, composting, or drying out completely.
- When boating, make sure to clean off any vegetative materials when leaving each waterbody and before launching into another.
- Always Remember to: **KNOW WHAT YOU GROW**

DON'T LET IT LOOSE &

CLEAN & DRAIN & DRY

Sources

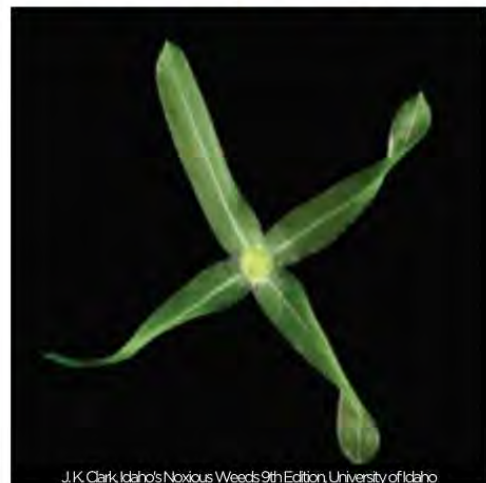
- CABl Invasive Species Compendium: <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/20491>
- Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho: <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL816.pdf>.



Robert Vidéki, Dorianum Kft, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



J.K. Clark, Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: INVASIVESPECIES.IDAHO.GOV
TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES IN IDAHO, PLEASE CALL 1-877-336-8676.

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DISTRIBUTION MAP



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