

Egeria densa

Brazilian waterweed,
Brazilian elodea, Leafy elodea

Invasive to Maine











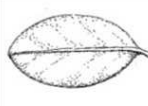
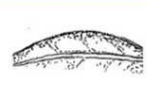
Freshwater
Ponds and Lakes

Leaves



Amy Murray, Ct for Aquatic and Invasive Plants UFL PERMITTED USE

Look for leaves in whorls, with usually 4 leaves per whorl. Leaves are 1 to 4 cm long, 2 to 5 mm broad, and are elliptical in shape.

PLANT COMMUNITY	LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF SHAPE	LEAF EDGE
 EMERGENT	 ALTERNATE	 ELLIPTICAL	 FEATHER DIVIDED
 FLOATING LEAF	 OPPOSITE	 BLADE	 TOOTHED
 SUBMERSED	 WHORLED	 OVAL	 SMOOTH

Plant



Amy Murray, Ct for Aquatic and Invasive Plants UFL PERMITTED USE

Look for a submerged plant growing in water up to 7 m deep with trailing stems. This plant thrives in slow-moving or stationary water. It reproduces from stem fragments.

Stem



Kristian Peters CC BY SA

Look for trailing stems 2 m or more in length that have roots at intervals.

Seasonal Change

Your Photo here!

We need a picture of the stem of *Egeria densa* for this identification card. Please take a clear photo of the seasonal change and send it to vitalsigns@gmri.org

Your name here

Brazilian waterweed is a perennial plant so it dies back during periods of cold temperatures.

Similar Species

Brazilian waterweed leaves have fine teeth on margins and are longer and wider than native waterweeds which have smooth edges. It is similar to Hydrilla but Hydrilla has 5 pointed leaves per whorl whereas Brazilian waterweed usually has 4 elliptical leaves per whorl.

Did You Know?

Brazilian waterweed has been a popular aquarium plant but spreads in local habitats if people empty their aquariums into freshwater systems. This plant has been reported as a problem in NH but has not yet been a problem in Maine.

If you think you found this species, call Maine's Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program: 207-783-7733 OR Department of Environmental Protection: 1-800-452-1942

Researched and created by: Sue Donaldson

Help us improve this species card! Contact us with your updates.