

# Egeria densa

## Invasive to Maine

Brazilian waterweed,  
Brazilian elodea, Leafy elodea

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



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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](mailto: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

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



[www.vitalsignsme.org](http://www.vitalsignsme.org)