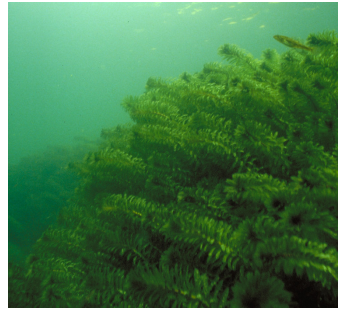


Egeria

Hydrocharitaceae - Egeria densa



What does it look like?

Egeria is an aquatic submerged, bottom-rooting perennial pest herb that grows in slow to still moving water. This weed has slender, buoyant stems (3 mm diameter) that grow upwards to 5m in length and are multi-branched. Contains linear dark leaves (15-30 x 5mm) are in whorls of 4-6 (sometimes 3 near base). Flowers are white, approximately 20mm in diameter, 3 petalled with yellow stamens which sit on the water surface.

Still to moderately flowing water bodies to a depth of about 7-8m. It prefers high nutrient water bodies and silty or sandy substrates. Optimum water temperatures, 10-25°C.

Most commonly spotted: Produces flowers between November to January (female plants not found in New Zealand/Aotearoa).

Why is it a problem?

Grows rapidly, forming dense patches, long-lived and overtops smaller native species. Can cause flooding due to creating large clumps and rotting vegetation, degrading water quality killing native plant and animal species.

Moved between water bodies by humans through deliberate releases as well as accidentally on machinery and fishing equipment. Public accessibility of site strongly predicts invasion likelihood. Spreads within catchments via natural water movement.

Control methods

Please contact your Council for advice on controlling this plant.

More information

Similar species: Lagarosiphon, Elodea and Hydrilla.

Notify Council

If you have seen or suspect the presence of this pest please report the sighting to Gisborne District Council immediately.

Management programme

- Exclusion
- National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA)

Rules

- Not known to be present within the Gisborne/Tairāwhiti region, however, if this species were to become established this will be a priority for Council's Biosecurity. For more information about this Rule, refer to our Regional Pest Management Plan page 17, under Related Links.
- No person will transport or have possession of this unwanted organism into or around the East Coast/Tairāwhiti Region.