

# Invasive Species Alert

## Brazilian Elodea

(*Egeria densa*)

\*Not detected in Michigan\*

### Identification:

- Bushy aquatic plant with dense whorls of bright green leaves
- Generally 4 leaves per whorl
- White, 3-petaled blooms float on the surface of the water
- Can grow up to 18 feet to water surface
- Easily confused with hydrilla (another invasive) – Brazilian elodea leaves are smooth to the touch



UGA5270021

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**Habitat:** This submerged perennial can survive rooted or free floating in freshwater depths up to 20 feet. Brazilian elodea can be found in ponds, lakes, and sluggish rivers and streams.



UGA1354012

Virginia Tech Weed ID Guide

Virginia Tech Weed Guide, Virginia Tech, Bugwood.org

**Native Range:** South America

**U.S. Distribution:** Brazilian elodea has been reported down the west coast and in the southeast from Texas up to Vermont and New Hampshire.

**Local Concern:** Rapid growth leads to dense, monospecific mats on the surface of the water. These mats crowd out native aquatic plant species, provide

poor habitat for fish, and impede boat movement and other recreational activities.

**Other Common Names:** Brazilian waterweed, dense waterweed, leafy elodea

To report this species, visit [www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies](http://www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies) for contact information. Report online at [www.misin.msu.edu](http://www.misin.msu.edu) or download the MISIN smartphone app and report it from your phone