

First detection in this area

Seen this plant? Water Hyacinth

Eichhornia crassipes



How does this weed affect us?

Water hyacinth smothers the surface of waterways, dams, irrigation channels and drains. It can rapidly take over an entire waterway and under favourable conditions it can double its mass every 5 days. It:

- Reduces water quality and levels
- Lowers oxygen levels
- Restricts access to water for birds, stock and wildlife
- Reduces food and shelter for fish
- Large masses can destroy fences, roads, bridges and culverts when they become mobile during floods
- Provides favourable conditions for mosquitoes to breed

Seen it? Call us:

Bellingen Shire Council
Invasive Plants Officer:

02 6655 7300

Email Bellingen Shire
Council:

council@bellingen.nsw.gov.au

Help protect our land, plants and wildlife.

For control and biosecurity information visit NSW

WeedWise: weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/WaterHyacinth



**BELLINGEN
SHIRE COUNCIL**



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Eichhornia crassipes



Where are you likely to find it?

Water Hyacinth has recently been found in a boggy depression near the Bellinger River.

Look for it in boggy areas, still or slow moving freshwater ponds, rivers, creeks, lakes, wetlands and dams. It is also found in garden ponds and water features.

It can be spread in the area by flood waters.

Seed can remain viable for 20 years so ongoing management is essential.

What does it look like?

Leaves are bright green, sometimes rusty yellow on their edges, glossy, smooth and hairless. The leaf shape changes depending on the density of infestations. Likely round and upright, up to 60cm long (including the stalk) on thin stalks.

Flowers are light bluish-purple or dark blue with six distinct petals, on upright stems with between 3 and 35 (but usually 8) flowers on each spike, appearing mid to late summer.

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