



Large-flowered waterweed

(*Egeria densa*)

Originated in South America.

Has spread widely due to its use in aquariums.

Description

- Perennial plant, always submerged
- Stalk up to three metres long, thin and fragile, branching, can develop roots at nodes
- Whorled leaves, generally in groups of 4 (but from 2 to 8), 1 to 3 cm long, 0.5 cm wide
- Adventitious roots, thin root system
- White flowers with 3 petals, opening on the water surface at the end of a long stem

Ecology and reproduction

- Asexual reproduction, i.e. vegetative reproduction through regrowth of stalks from previous year
- Can colonise very different environments (ranging from stagnant to running waters)
- Can occupy the entire water column on favourable sites
- Highly adaptable to nutrient availability
- Can develop on different substrates

Documentation

- Fare A., Dutartre A., Rebillard J.-P. 2001. Les principaux végétaux aquatiques du Sud-Ouest de la France. Agence de l'eau Adour Garonne. 90 pp.
- Hudin S., Vahrameev P. (coord.) 2010. Guide d'identification des plantes exotiques envahissant les milieux aquatiques et les berges du bassin Loire-Bretagne. Fédération des conservatoires d'espaces naturels, 45 pp.
- Muller S. (coord.) 2004. Plantes invasives en France : état des connaissances et propositions d'actions. Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, 168 pp.

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Classification

Order	Alismatales
Family	Hydrochariaceae
Genus	<i>Egeria</i>
Species	<i>E. densa</i> (Planchon, 1849)



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