

Seen this plant? Water Hyacinth

Eichhornia crassipes



How does this weed affect us?

Water Hyacinth smothers the surface of water ways, dams, irrigation channels and drains. It can also:

- reduce water quality.
- cause changes in water temperature and pH.
- lower oxygen levels.
- reduce water levels.
- restrict livestock access to water.
- prevent boating and water sports.
- limit movement of aquatic animals.
- reduce food and shelter for fish and other native animals.
- prevent native water plants from growing.
- damage fences during floods.

Seen it? Call us:

NSW DPI Biosecurity Helpline

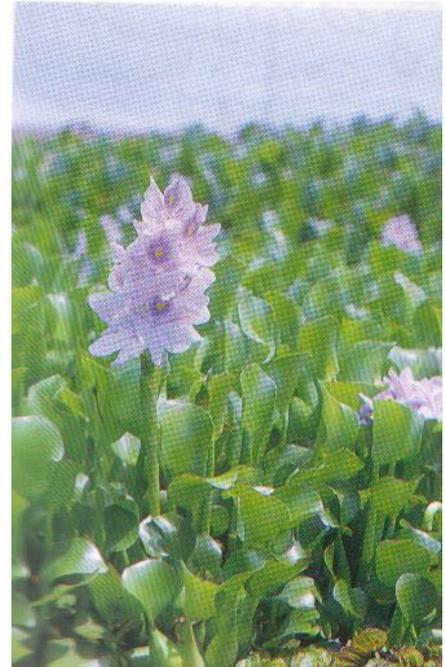
1800 680 244

Illawarra District Weeds Authority 02 4233 1129

Help protect our land, plants and wildlife.

For control and biosecurity information visit NSW
WeedWise: weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/WaterHyacinth





Where are you likely to find it?

Water hyacinth grows along the NSW east coast from the Queensland border to Kiama and in some NSW inland areas. In the Illawarra it can be found growing in some creeks and water ways such as dams but also in garden ponds and freshwater fish tanks.

What type of environment does it grow in?

It grows best in still or slow-flowing fresh water with high nutrient levels. The ideal temperature range is 28-30°C, though it still grows well between 22 and 35°C .

What does it look like?

Water hyacinth is a floating water plant.

Leaves are bright green, sometimes rusty yellow along the edges. They are glossy, smooth and hairless.

Flowers are light bluish-purple or dark blue with six distinct petals 4-7 cm long and 4-6 cm wide. Produced from mid to late summer and only open for one or two days before withering.

Stems are either erect stems up to 60 cm long, with flowers or horizontal vegetative stems (stolons) 10 cm long, which produce new daughter plants.

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