

# Egeria

## (Brazilian elodea)

[*Egeria densa*]

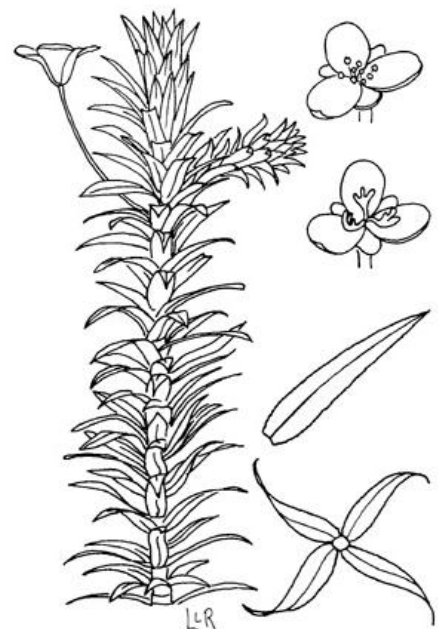
### DESCRIPTION

Egeria is a submersed, perennial weed. The stems are very slender (<1/4 inch) and long (>6 feet). Stems branch at various intervals, and roots are also formed at the branches. The leaves are whorled, and can have 3-6 whorls at each junction. The leaves are linear, and margins are finely serrated. Flowers are evident above the water surface, as they are borne upon pedicels that are 1-4 inches long. The flowers are white, with 3 petals and 3 (green) sepals. Each petal can be 1/3 inch long or more. Flowers can be present throughout the year, but are mostly present in the spring and early summer.



Brazilian elodea is similar in appearance to hydrilla, but elodea is usually a larger and greener plant. Vegetative growth of this plant is very prolific in the spring and summer, and new plants are formed when pieces of the original plant are broken off. This plant is quite competitive, and its habitat is ponds, lakes, streams and rivers.

CHARACTERISTIC	DESCRIPTION
Growth Season	perennial
Growth Habit	submersed
Leaflet Number	3-10 leaves per whorl
Leaf Margin	finely toothed, serrated
Leaf Hairs	none
Leaf/Leaflet Shape	elongated
Leaf Length	1 - 1¼ inch
Leaf Arrangement	whorled
Root Type	adventitious
Flower Color	white





**hydrilla (L) and egeria (R)**



**egeria**

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**References:**

*Line drawings:*

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*Text:*

Aulback-Smith, C. A., and de Kozlowski, S. J. 1996. Aquatic and Wetland Plants of South Carolina. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.