

Seagrass Bioregional Species Key:

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Tropical Atlantic Bioregion

Species identification key including photo guide, global range maps, drawings, and flowers.

From:

SeagrassNet

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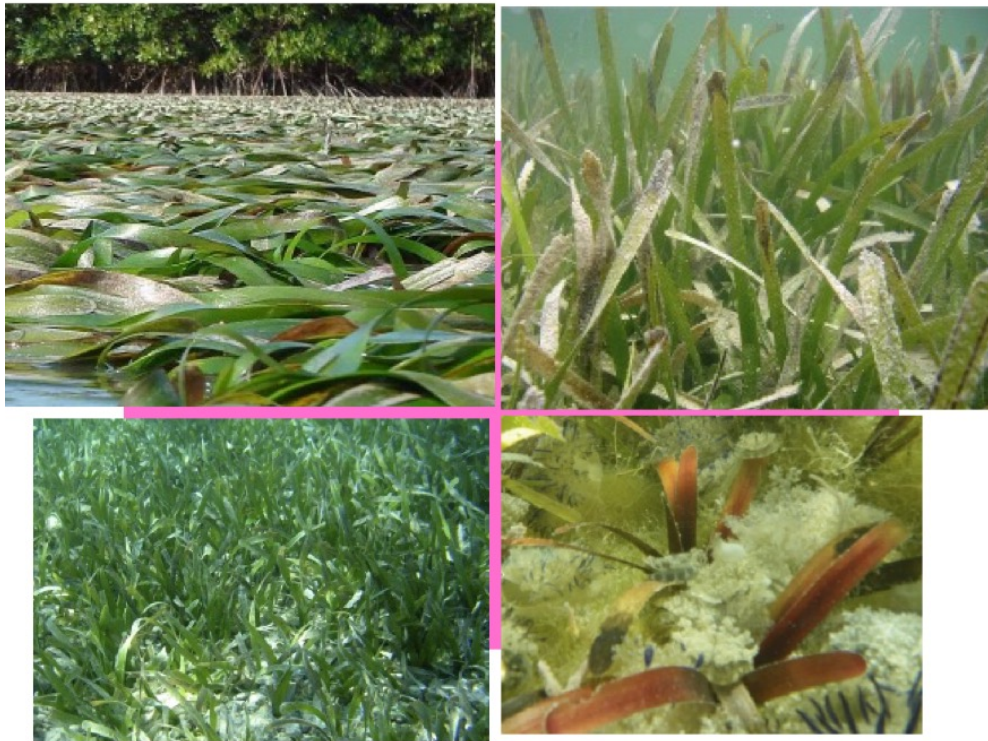
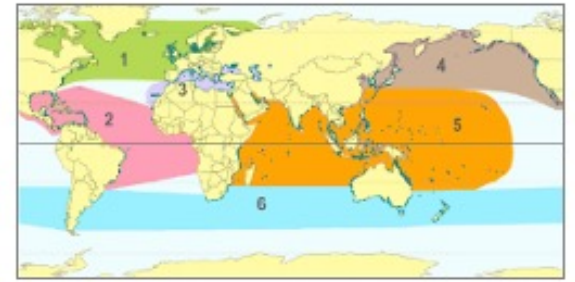
With ratings from:

IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

Seagrass Red List

*Bioregional Guide to the Seagrass Species of the World. 2025. F.T. Short.
Available on-line www.SeagrassNet.org.*

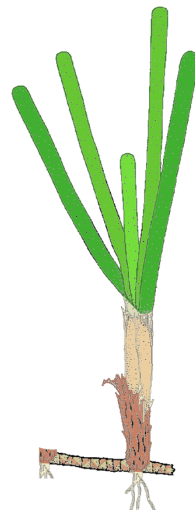
T† *Thalassia testudinum*



Key

- Flat leaves with small dark tannin cells
- Fibrous leaf sheath
- Rhizome with scale between nodes
- Leaves 10-60 cm long
- Dioecious
- Often with red leaves

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

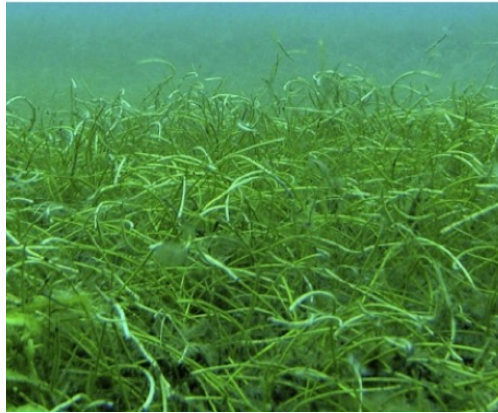
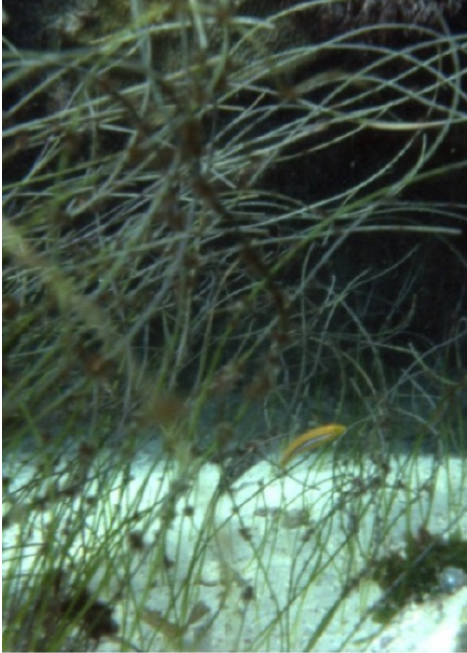
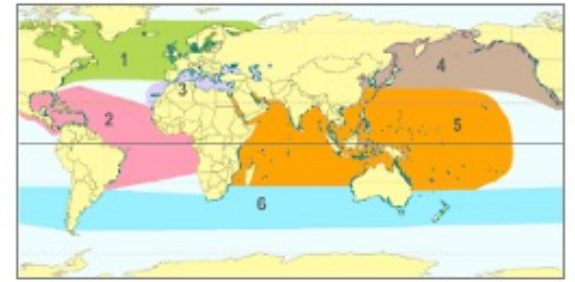


Flowering Parts

male buds



Sf *Syringodium filiforme*



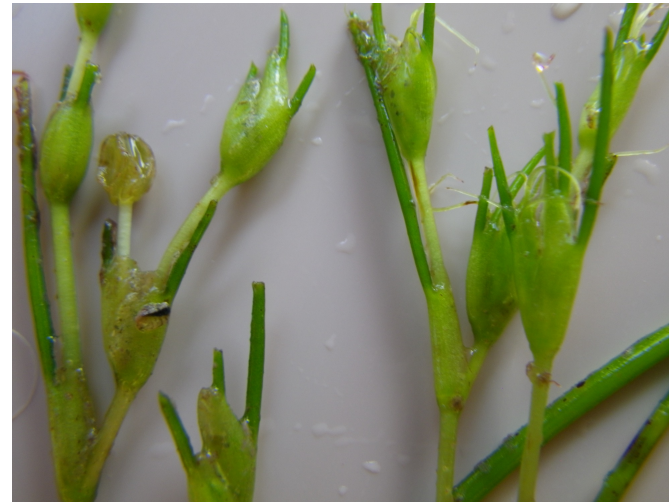
Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Key

- Leaves cylindrical
- Leaf tips taper
- Leaves 10-60 cm long
- Dioecious

Flowering Parts



Male

female



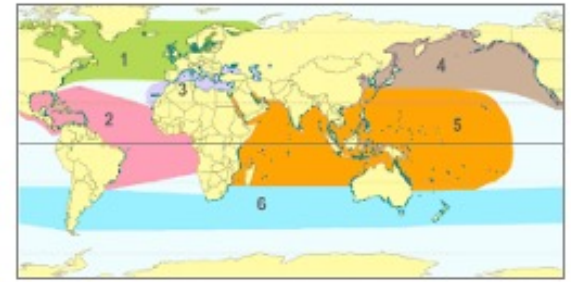
fruits

Hw *Halodule wrightii*



Bioregion

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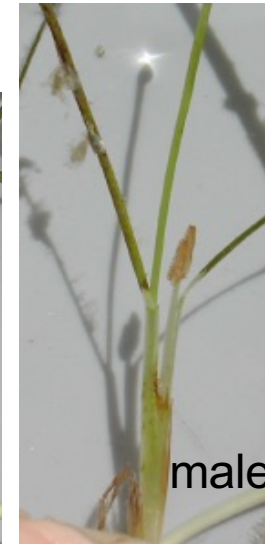
Key

- Leaves flat and thin
- Leaf tip usually 2 points
- Leaves 2-22 cm long
- Rhizome whitish
- Dioecious
- Depth -1 to 20 m
- Sometimes leaves red or black

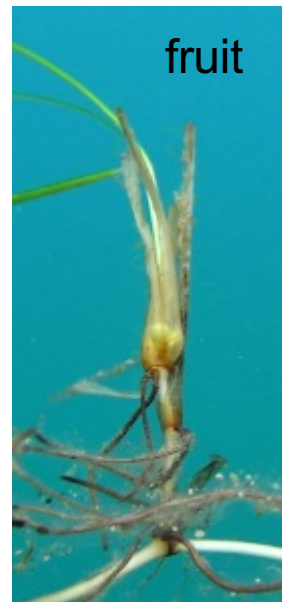
Flowering Parts



female



male

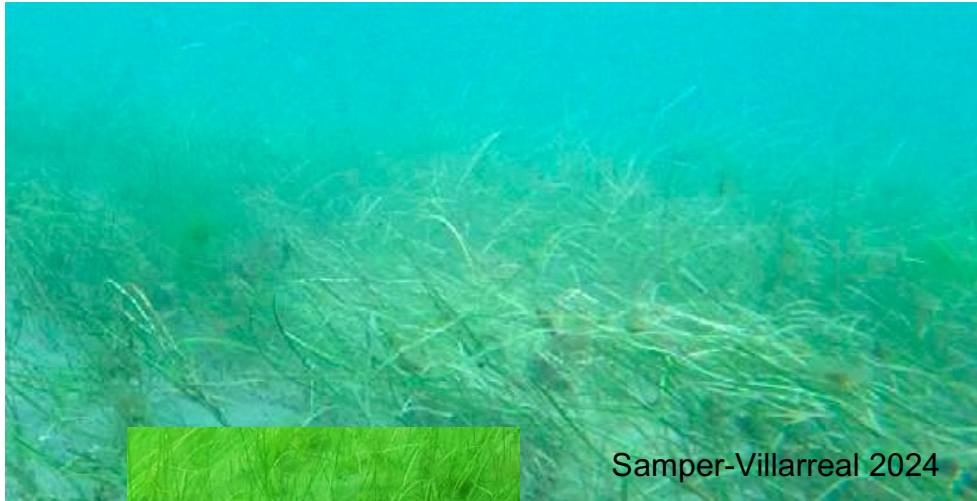
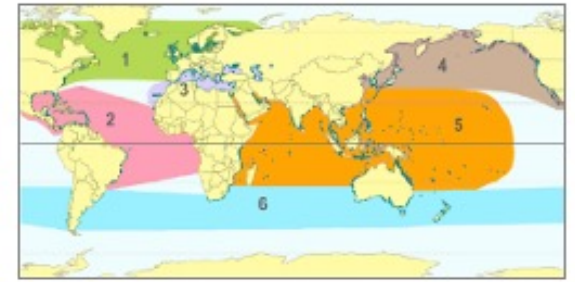


fruit

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Hv *Halodule beaudettei*

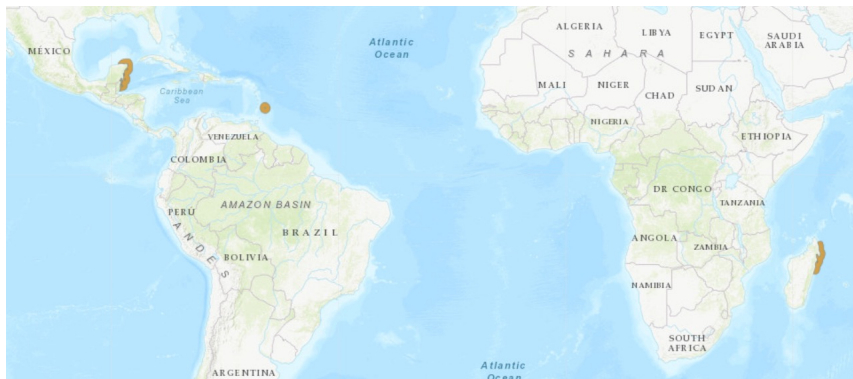


Samper-Villarreal 2024

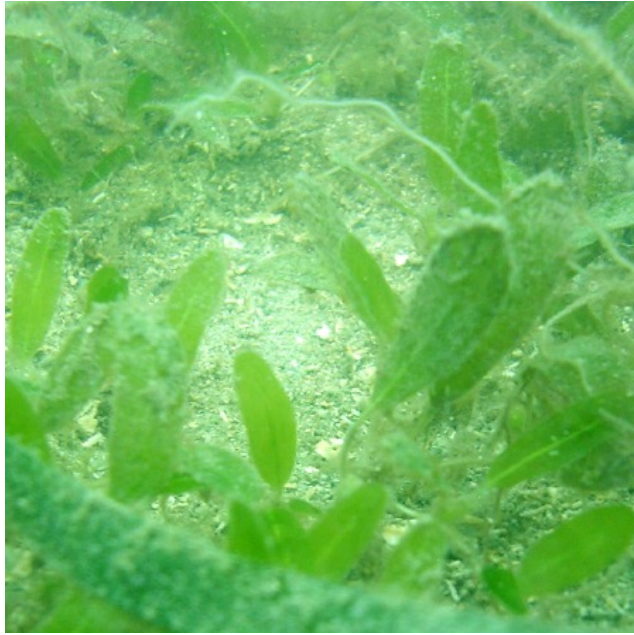
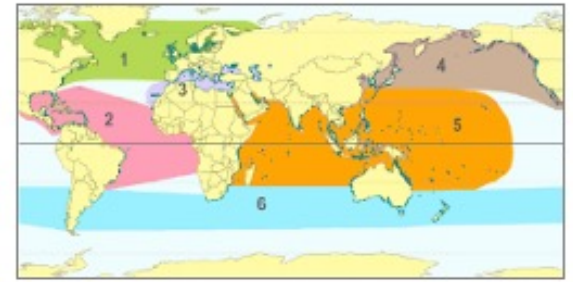
Key

- Leaves flat and thin
- Leaf tip with 3 points, long central tooth
- Leaves 15 cm long
- Dioecious
- Depth 0 to 10 m

Extinction Risk: Data Deficient



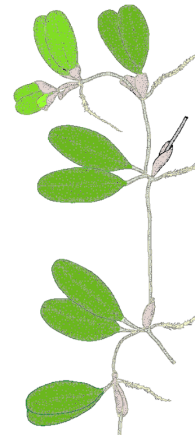
Hd *Halophila decipiens*



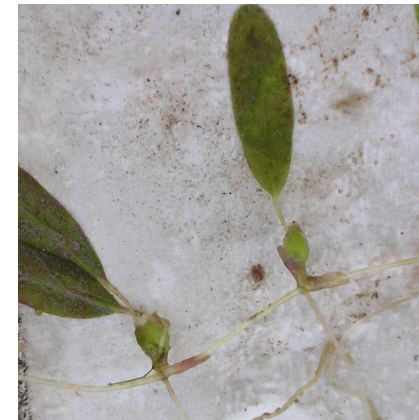
Key

- Paddle-shaped leaves
- Leaf hairs on both sides
- Leaf margins serrated
- Leaves 1-4 cm long
- Monoecious
- Depth 0 to 30 m

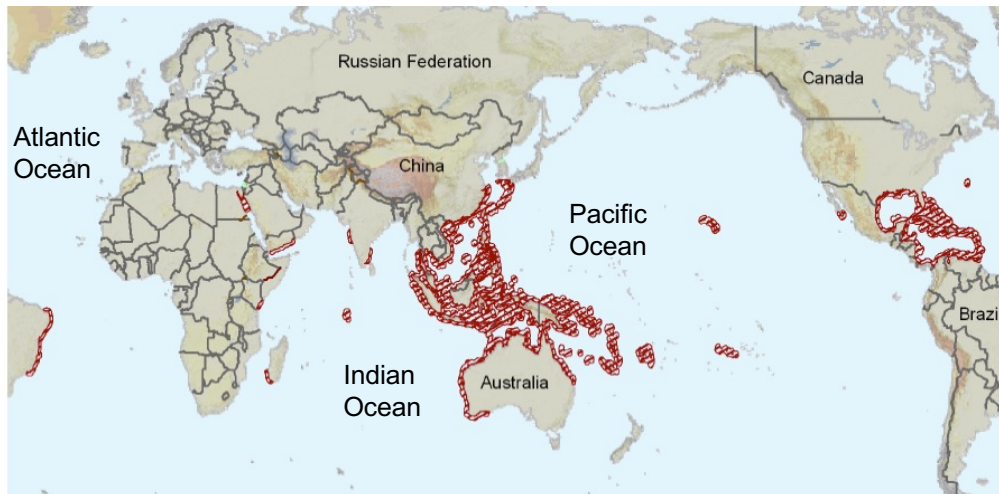
Flowering Parts



male & female

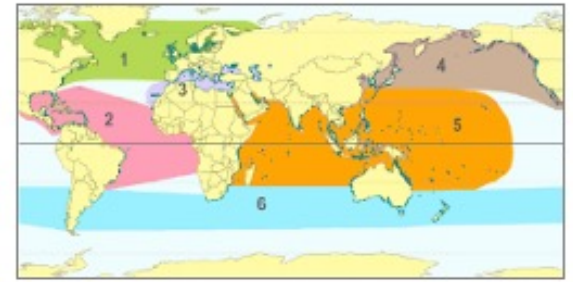


fruit



Extinction Risk: Least Concern

HI *Halophila baillonii*



Key

- Leaves in rosette on 1-6 cm stem
- 4-5 leaves per rosette
- Leaf margins serrated
- Leaves 2-3 cm long, rounded tip
- Dioecious

Extinction Risk: **Vulnerable**

Flowering Parts



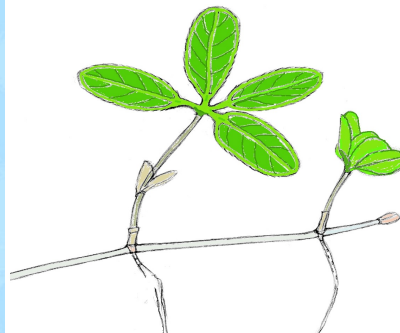
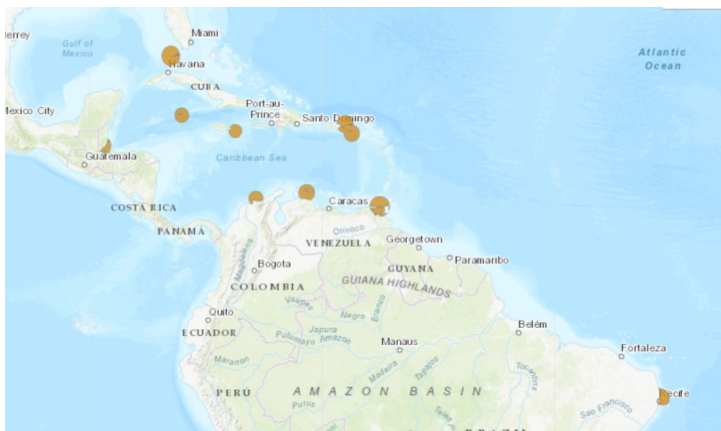
male



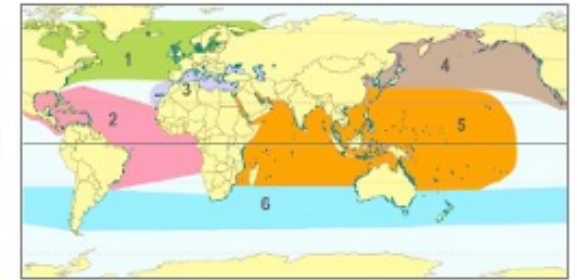
female



fruit



He *Halophila engelmanni*

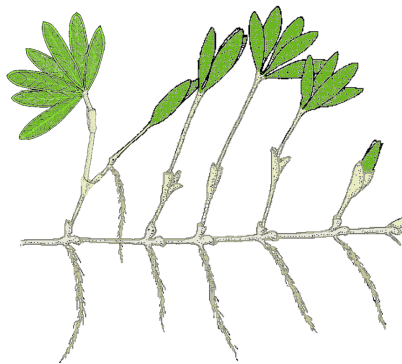
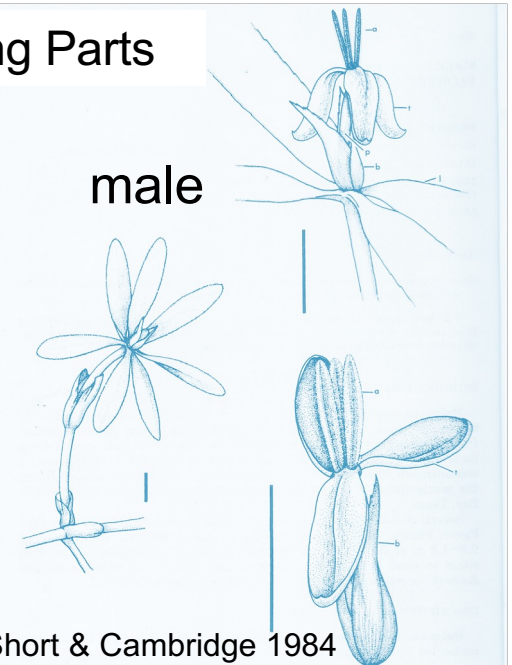


Key

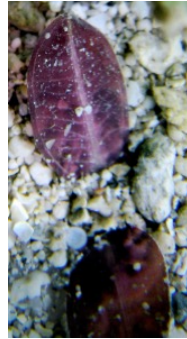
- Leaves in rosette on stem
- 5-8 leaves per rosette
- Pointed leaves with small petiole
- Leaves 2-5 cm long
- Dioecious
- Depth 0 to 5 m

Extinction Risk: **Near Threatened**

Flowering Parts

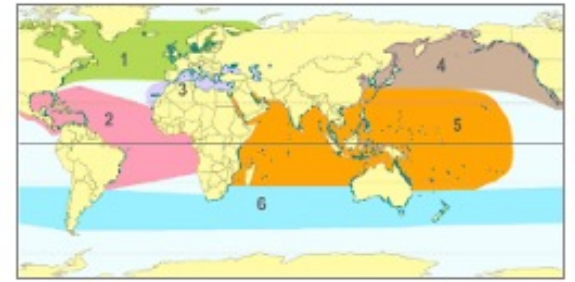


Ho *Halophila ovalis*



Bioregion

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Key

- Oval-shaped leaves, 1-4 cm long
- Leaves often red or purple
- No leaf hairs
- Leaf margins smooth
- Depth 0 to 10 m
- Dioecious

Flowering Parts

female



male



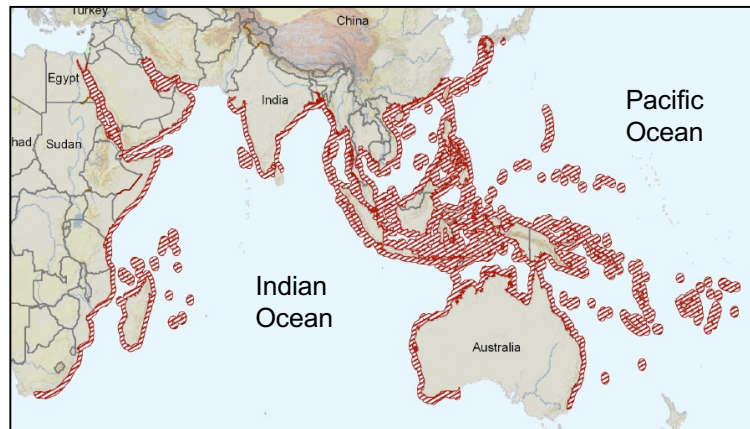
Extinction Risk: Least Concern

Atlantic Ocean



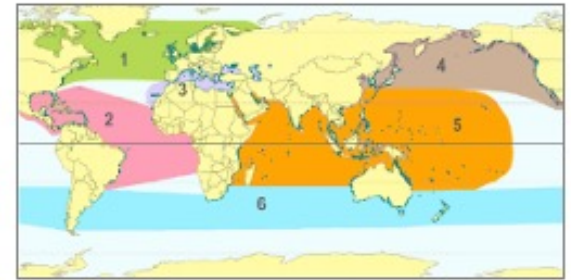
Indian Ocean

Pacific Ocean



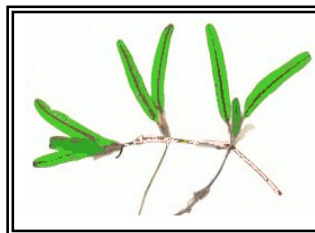
Hs *Halophila stipulacea*

Invasive species



- Elongated paddle-shaped leaves to 6cm
- Leaf stippled and bullate, tip serrated
- Distinctive scales cover the stem
- Depth 0 to 60m
- Dioecious
- Range expanding

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Flowering Parts

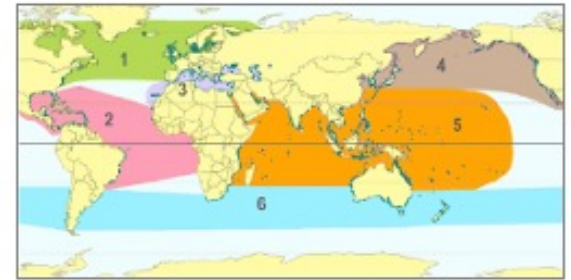


male



female

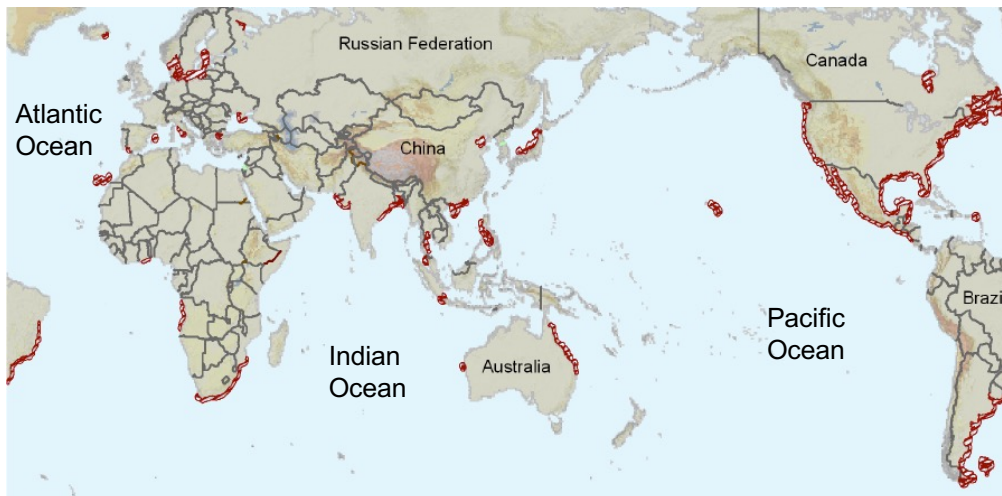
Rm *Ruppia maritima*



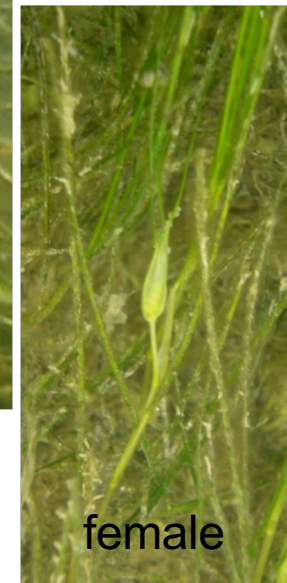
Key

- Leaves flat and thin
- Leaf tapers to tip
- Leaves 4-22 cm long
- Depth -1 to 20 m

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Flowering Parts



fruit



Global Seagrass Species References

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