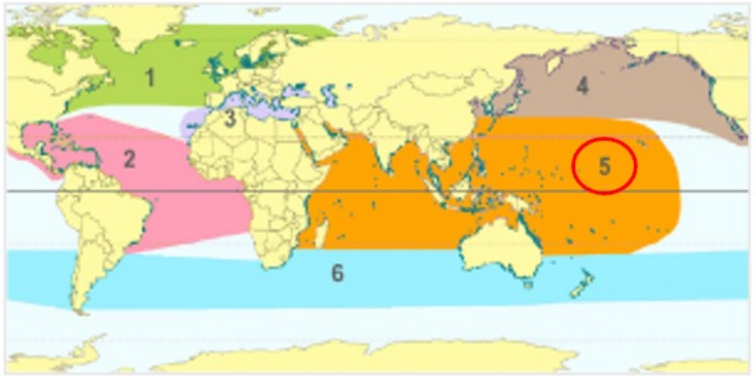
SeagrassNet

Global Bioregion Key



Seagrass Bioregional Species Key:

5 Tropical Indo-Pacific Bioregion

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

From:

SeagrassNet

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University of New Hampshire
603-659-3313 cell
fredtshort@gmail.com
www.SeagrassNet.org

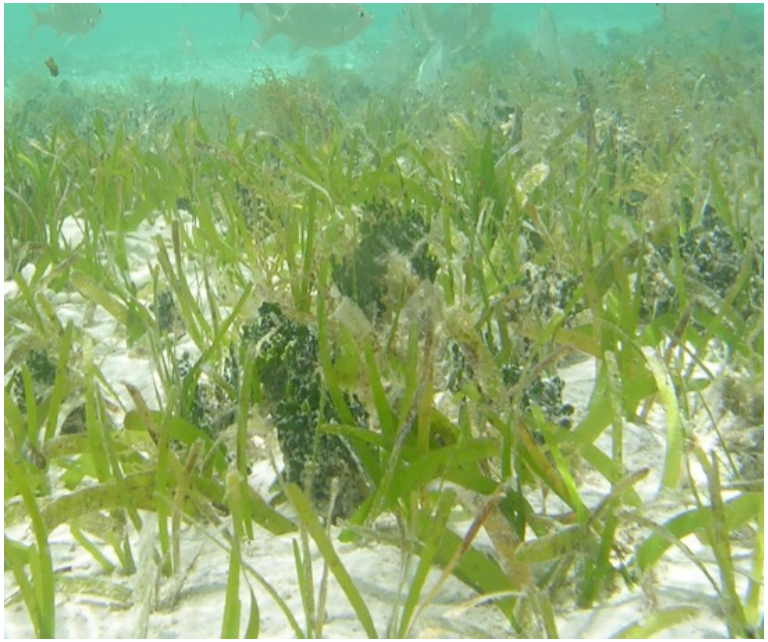
With ratings from:

IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

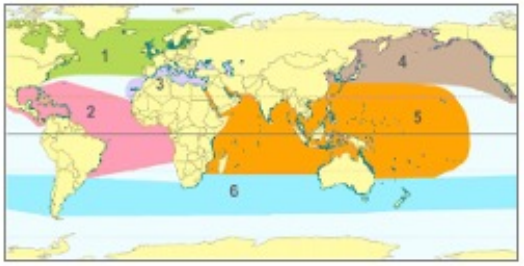
Seagrass Red List

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

Th *Thalassia hemprichii*



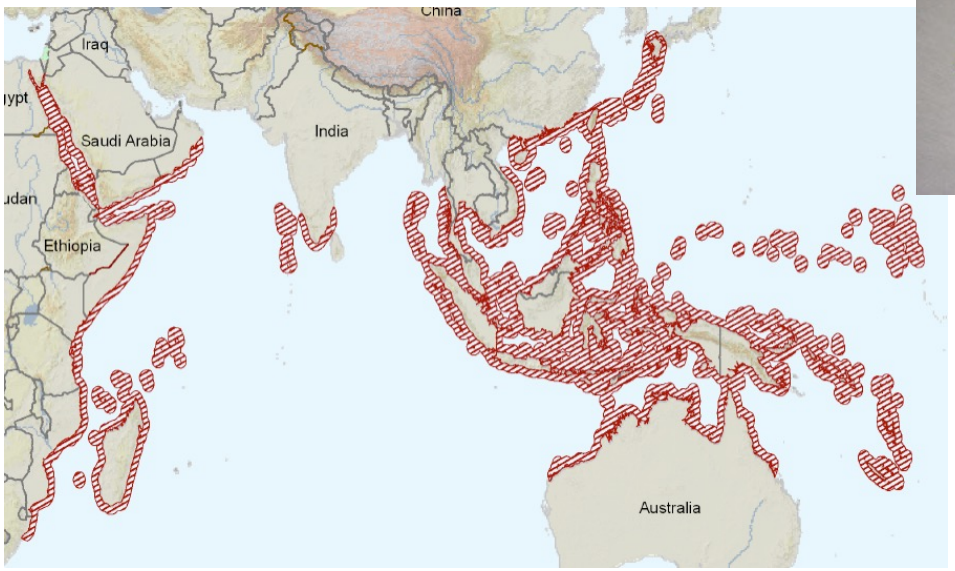
Bioregion 5



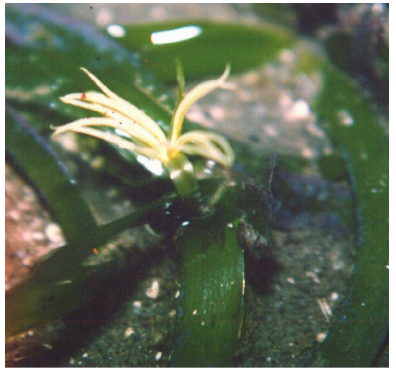
Key

- Rounded serrated leaf tip
- Leaves 10-40 cm, often sickle-shaped
- Rhizome with scale leaves between shoots
- Dioecious
- Sometimes dark tannin spots on leaves
- Sometimes with red leaves in shallows

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Flowering Parts

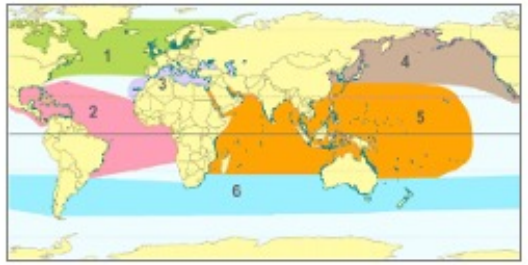


fruit

male

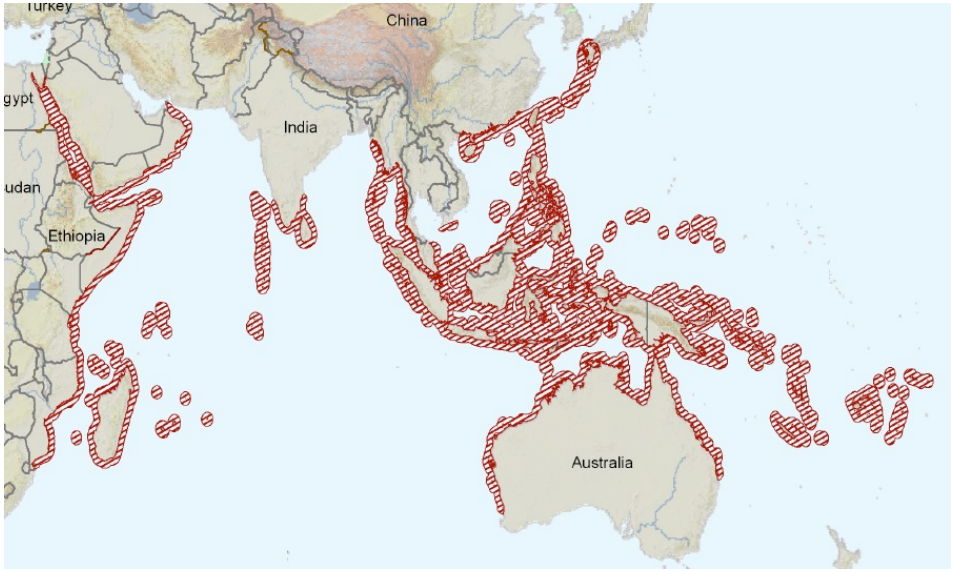
Si *Syringodium isoetifolium*

Bioregion 5

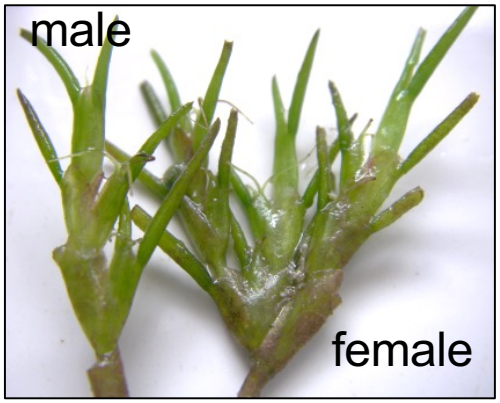


Key
- Leaves cylindrical
- Leaf tips taper
- Leaves 7-30 cm long
- Dioecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



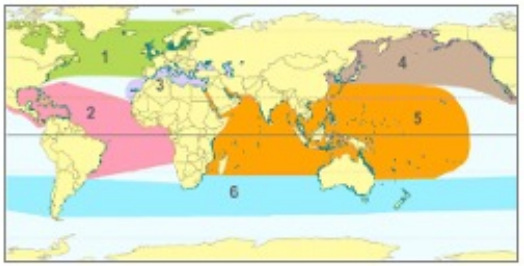
Flowering Parts



fruit

Hp *Halodule pinifolia*

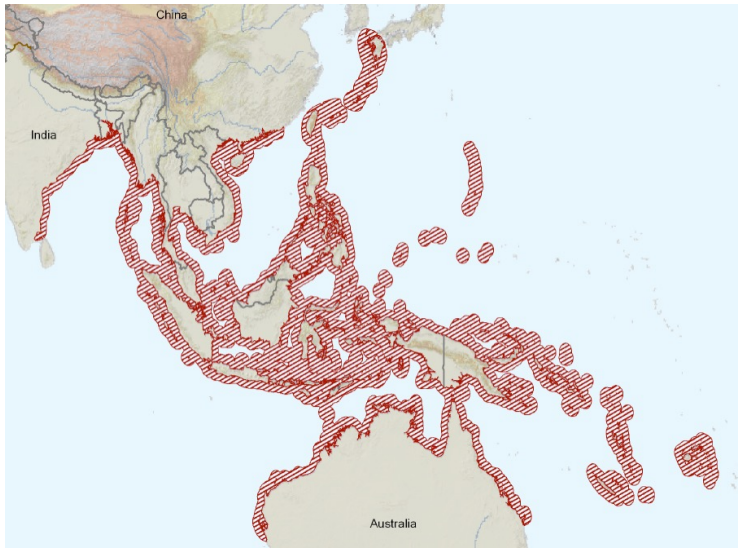
Bioregion 5



Key

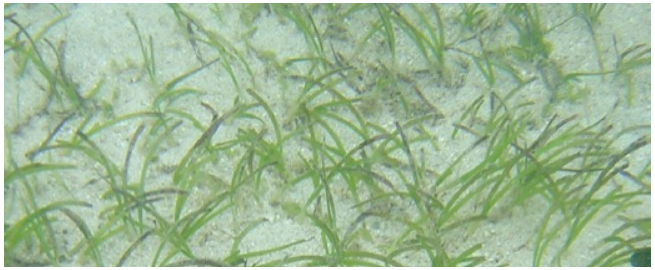
- Rounded leaf tips with marginal points
- One central leaf vein
- Pale rhizome with clean black leaf scars
- Leaves 10 – 30 cm long
- Depth intertidal to 20 m
- Dioecious

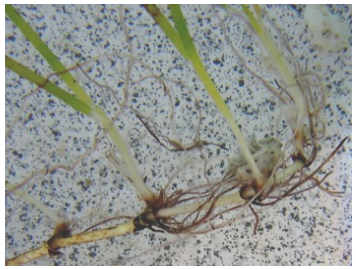
Extinction Risk: Least Concern



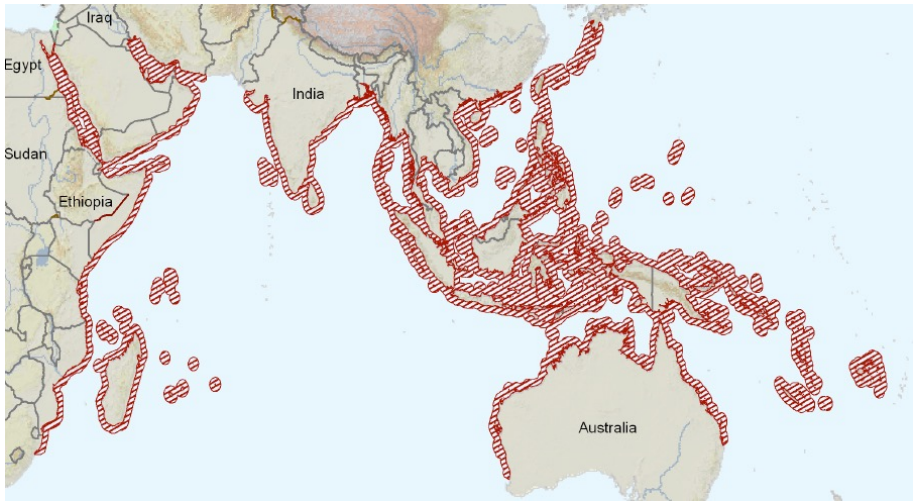
Flowering Parts

Hu *Halodule uninervis*

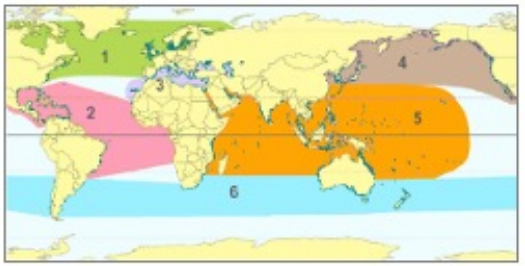




Extinction Risk: Least Concern



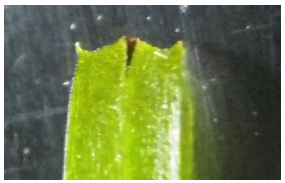
Bioregion 5



Key

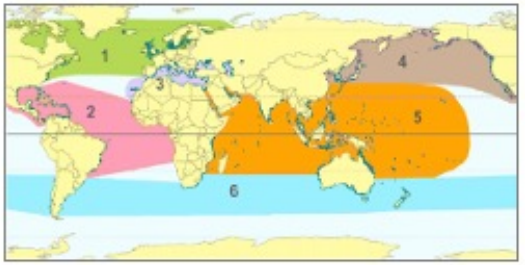
- Leaves flat
- Leaf tip with 3 points
- Rhizome whitish with black leaf scars
- Leaves 10 – 30 cm long
- Depth intertidal to 20 m
- Dioecious

Flowering Parts



Hw *Halodule wrightii*

Bioregion 5



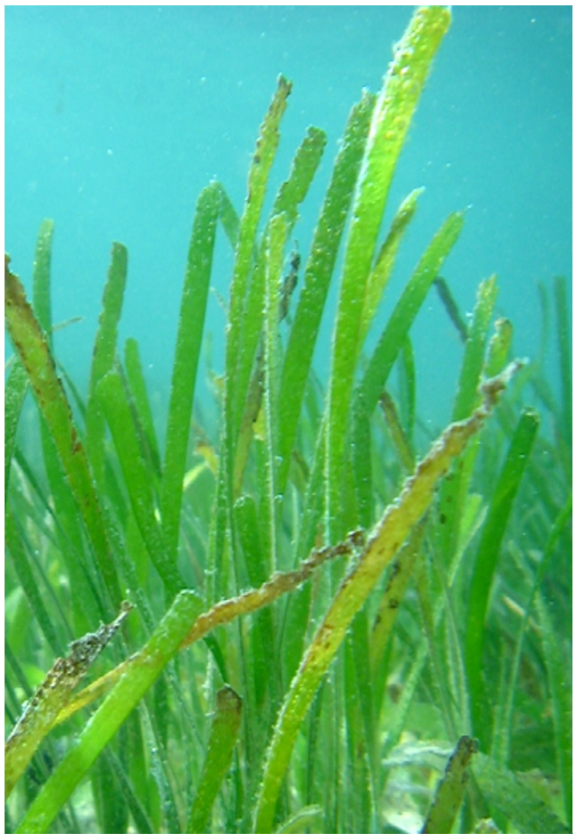
Key

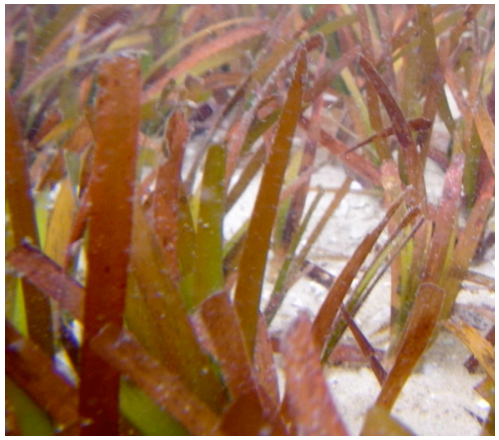
- Leaves flat and thin
- Leaf tip usually 2 points
- Leaves 2-22 cm long
- Rhizome whitish
- Dioecious
- Depth -1 to 20 m
- Sometimes leaves red or black

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

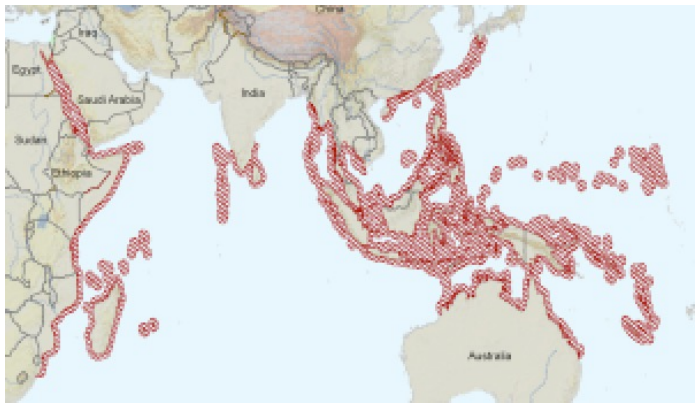
Flowering Parts

Cr *Cymodocea rotundata*

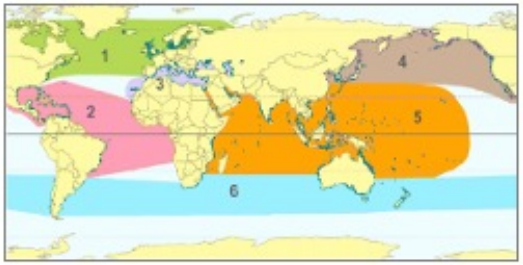




Extinction Risk: Least Concern



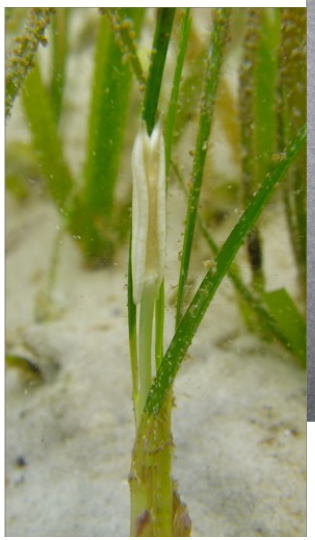
Bioregion 5



Key

- Smooth rounded-to-squared leaf tip
- Leaf scar fully encircles vertical stem
- Narrow leaf blades (2-5 mm)
- Leaves 7-20 cm long with 9-15 veins
- Dioecious
- Often with red leaves

Flowering Parts



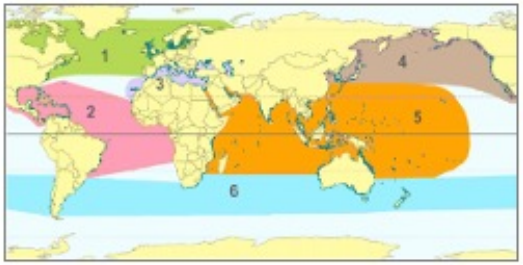
male

female

fruit

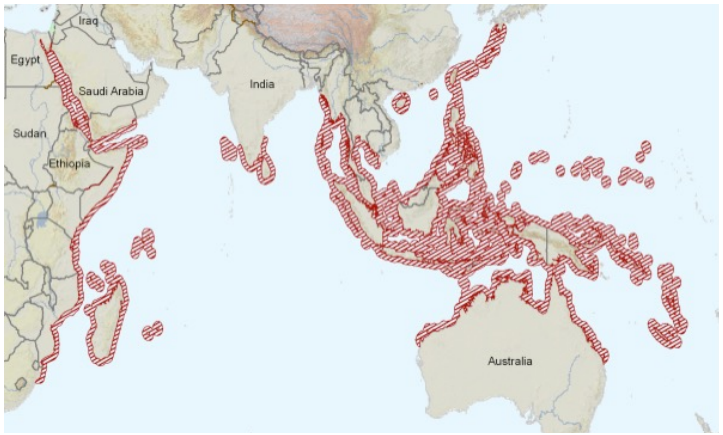
Cs *Cymodocea serrulata*

Bioregion 5



Key
- Serrated rounded leaf tip
- Leaf scar not encircling vertical stem
- Wide leaf blades (4-12 mm)
- Leaves 6-15 cm with 13-17 veins
- Triangle shaped sheath
- Dioecious
- Often with red cross-stripes on leaves

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Flowering Parts

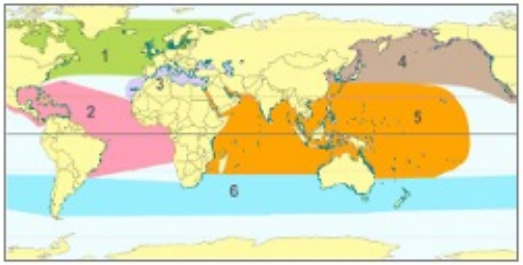
male

female

Seed

Tc *Thalassodendron ciliatum*

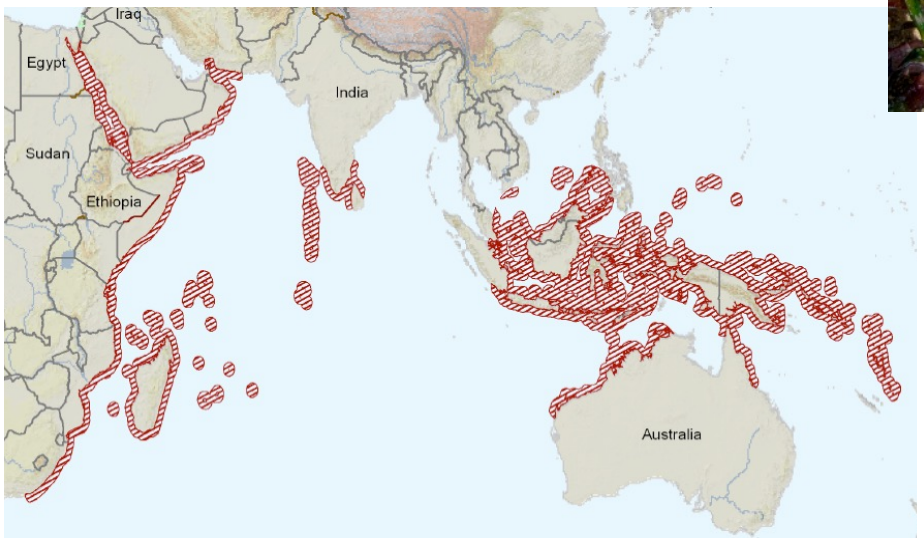
Bioregion 5



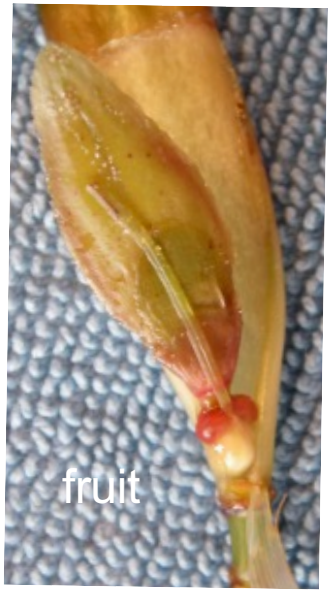
Key

- Cluster of leaves on an erect stem
- Leaves 10-20 cm
- Sickle-shaped leaves with serrated tips
- Rhizome woody
- Dioecious
- Leaves often have red cross-stripes

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

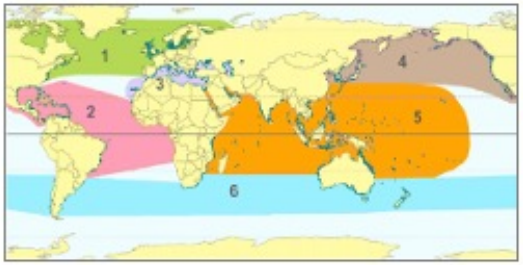


Flowering Parts



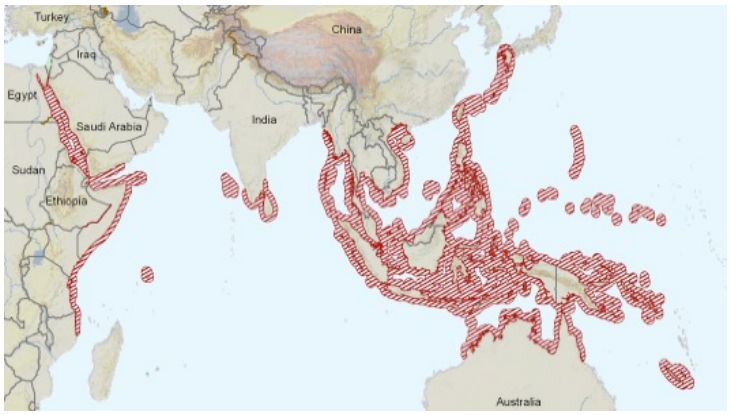
Ea *Enhalus acoroides*

Bioregion 5



Key
- Smooth rounded leaf tip
- Leaves 30 cm - 2m long
- Leaf edge rolls around tough fiber
- Wide leaf blades (10-20 mm)
- Rhizome with long black bristles
- Depth intertidal to 2 m
- Dioecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



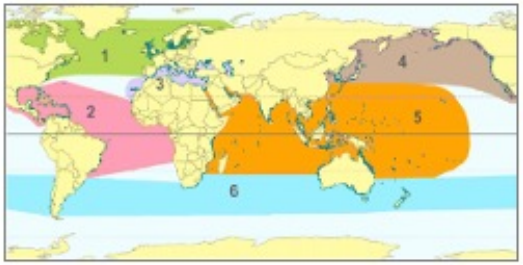
Flowering Parts

seedling

seed release

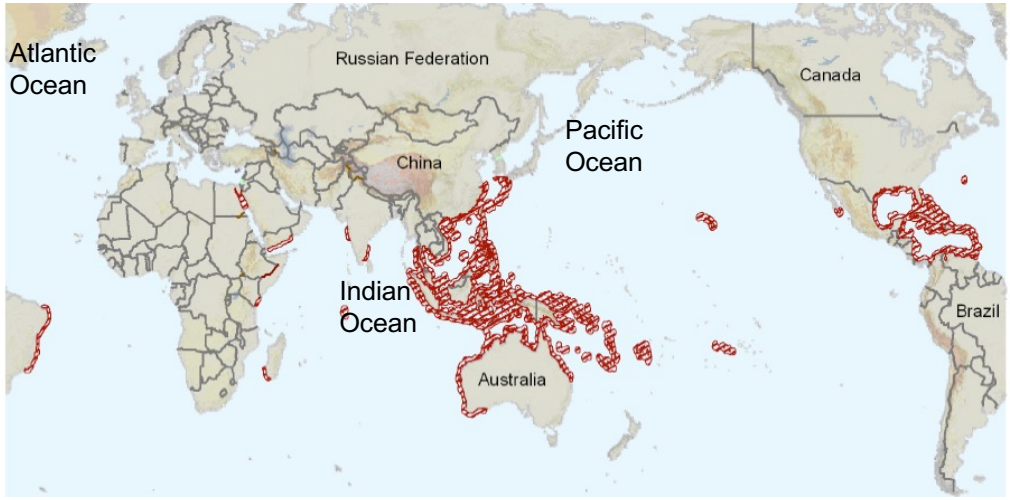
Hd *Halophila decipiens*

Bioregion 5

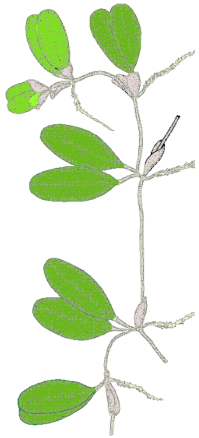


Key
- Paddle-shaped leaves
- Leaf hairs on both sides
- Leaf margins serrated
- Leaves 1-4 cm long
- Monoecious
- Depth 0-30 m

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



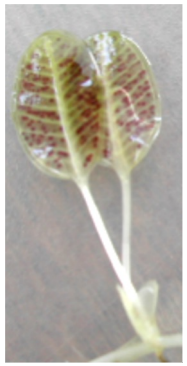
Flowering Parts



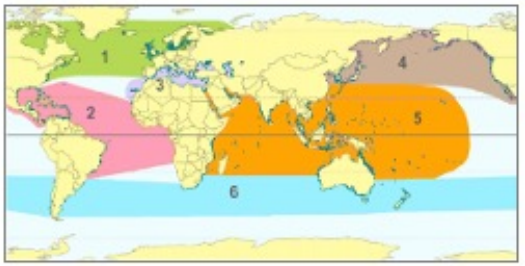
male & female

fruit

Ho *Halophila ovalis*



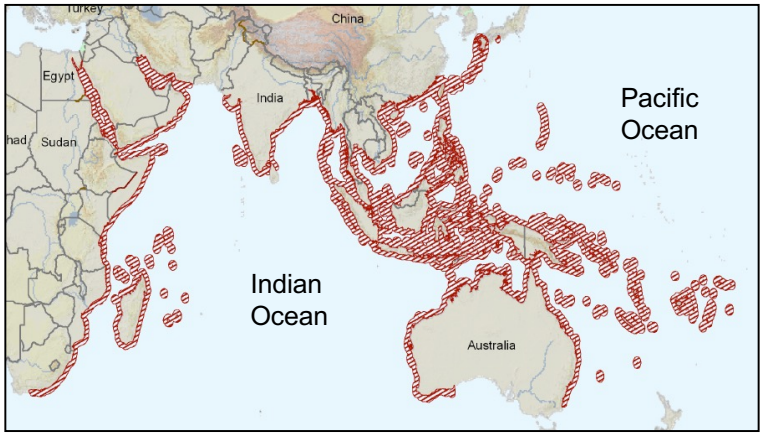
Bioregion 5



Key
- Oval-shaped leaves
- Leaves 1-4 cm long
- No leaf hairs
- Leaf margins smooth
- Depth 0-10 m
- Dioecious

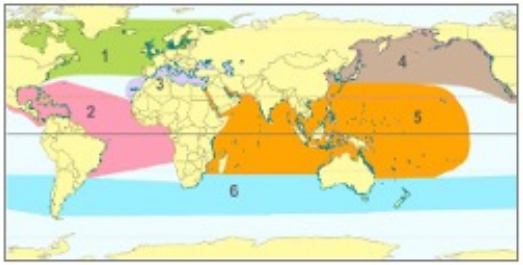
Flowering Parts

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



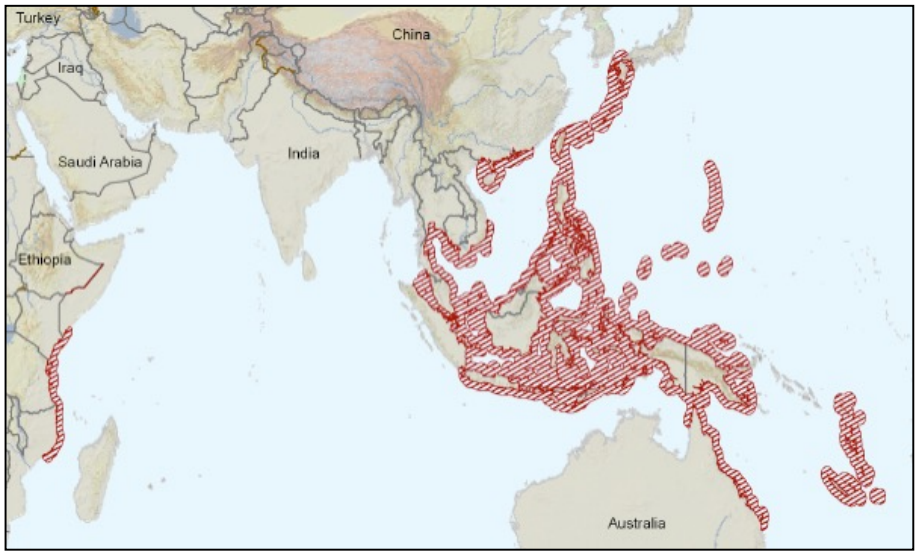
Hm *Halophila minor*

Bioregion 5



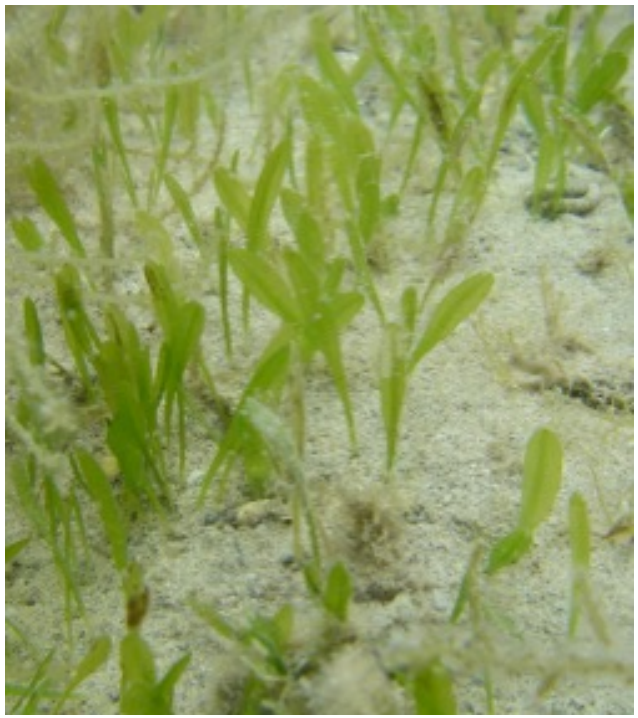
Key
- Small oval leaves
- 4 - 8 cross veins
- Leaves 8 to 13 mm long
- No hairs on leaf surface
- Often intertidal
- Dioecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



Flowering Parts

Ho *Halophila hawaiiana*



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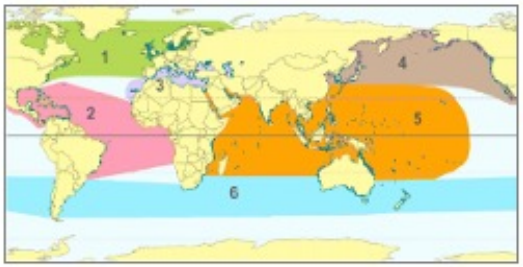


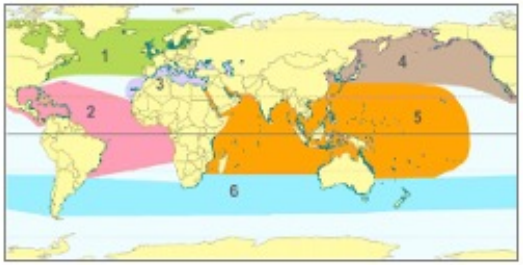
Key
- Leaves 1-4 cm long
- No leaf hairs
- Leaf margins smooth
- Dioecious
- Depth 0 -10 m

Extinction Risk: Vulnerable

Flowering Parts

Hn *Halophila spinulosa*

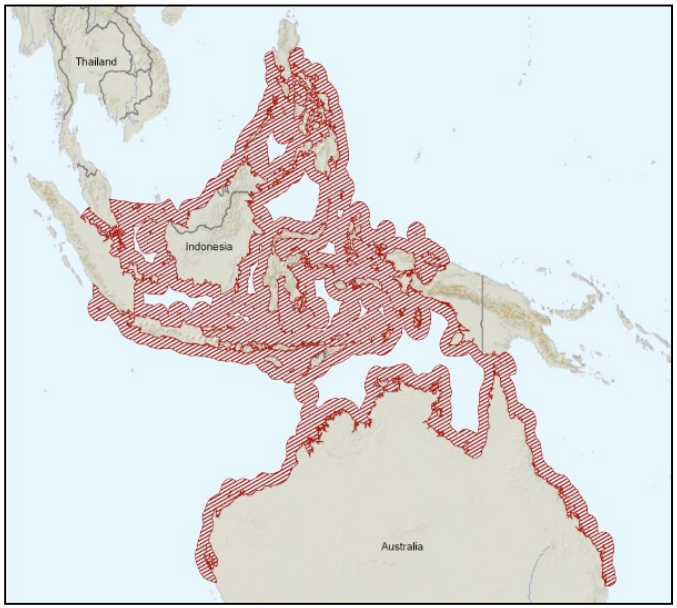
Bioregion 5



Key

- Many oval-shaped leaves on a single stem
- Leaf edges finely serrated
- Wiry rhizome with stems to 30 cm
- Depth 0 -10 m
- Male and female different stems same plant

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

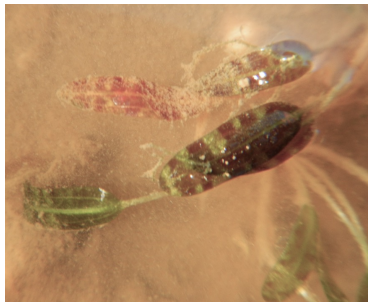


Flowering Parts

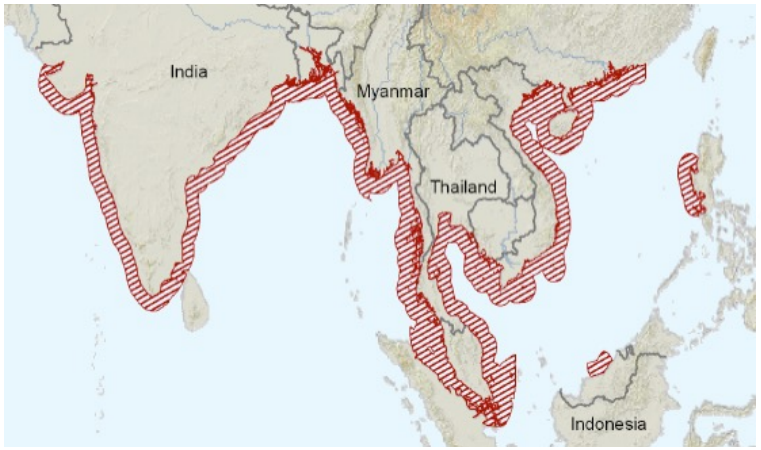
female

male

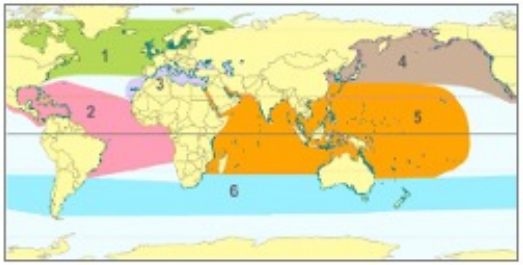
Hb *Halophila beccarii*



Extinction Risk: Vulnerable



Bioregion 5



Key
- 5+ elongated oval leaves in clusters
- Leaves 0.5 –2 mm wide
- Leaves up to 13 mm long
- Often intertidal
- Dioecious

Flowering Parts

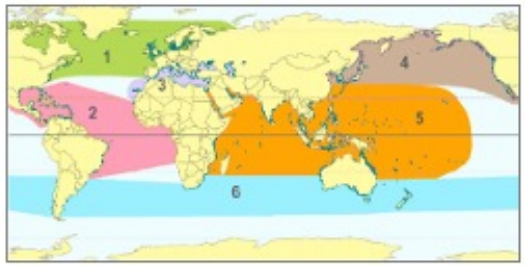
female

male

seed

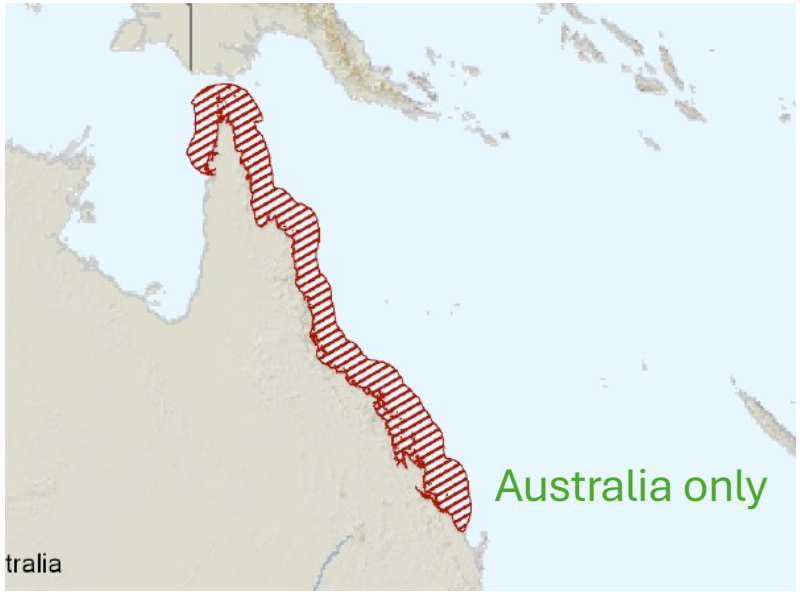
Ht *Halophila tricostata*

Bioregion 5



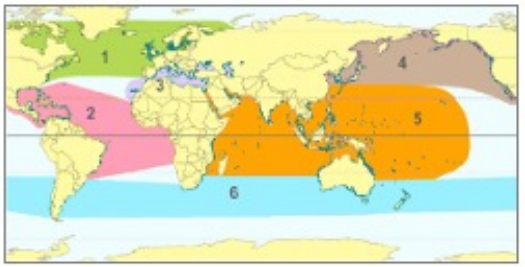
Key
- Clusters of 3 leaves on vertical stem
- Leaf with mid-vein and no cross veins
- Leaf margins finely serrated
- Dioecious
- Depth 0-30 m

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



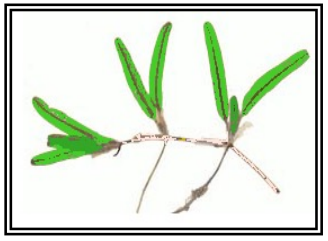
Hs *Halophila stipulacea*

Bioregion 5



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

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



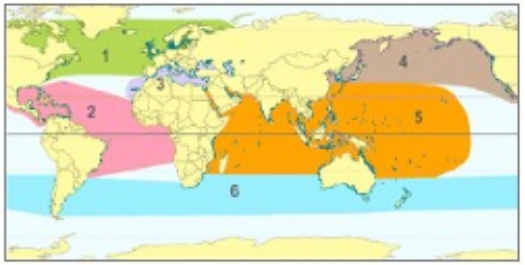
Flowering Parts

male

female

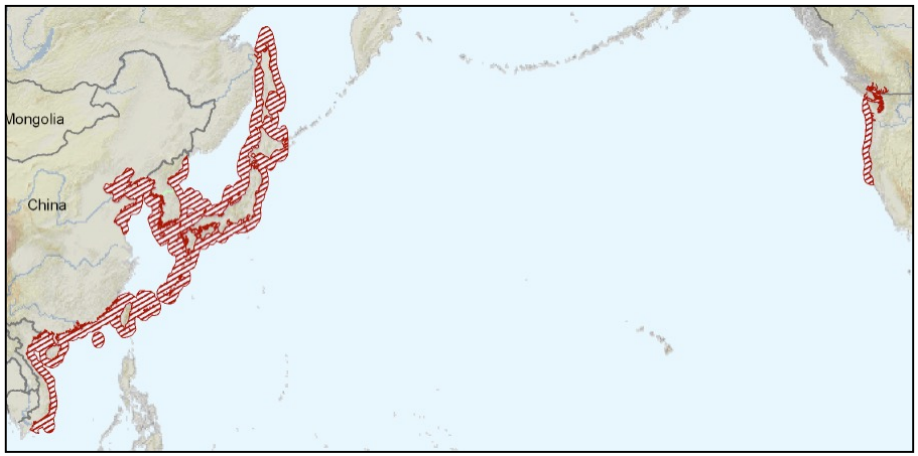
Zj *Nanozostera japonica*

Bioregion 5



Key
- Smooth rounded leaf tip
- Narrow leaf blades (2-5 mm)
- Leaves 7-20 cm long
- Monoecious
- Depth intertidal - shallow subtidal

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



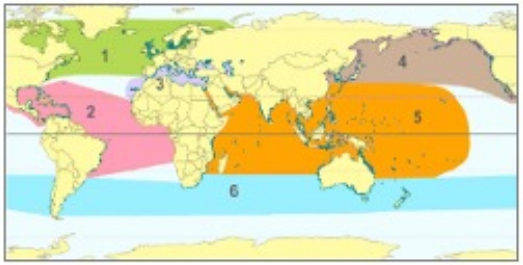
Flowering Parts

Zc *Nanozostera muelleri*

Shaun Lee 2024

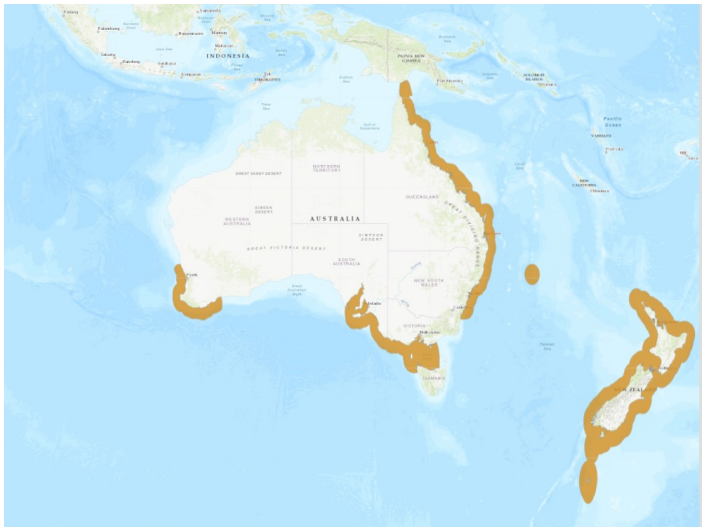
Tony Strazzari

Bioregion 5



Key
- Round leaf tip deeply notched
- Strap-like leaf blades (1-3 mm wide)
- Leaves 10-60 cm long
- Persistent leaf sheath
- Monoecious
- Previously known as *Zostera capricorni*

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

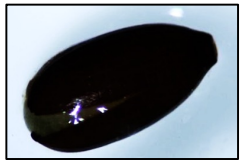


Flowering Parts

Rachel Hooks 2024

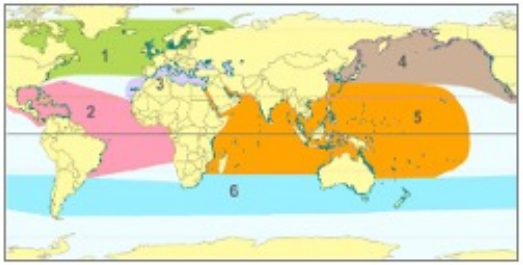
de Kock et al. 2016

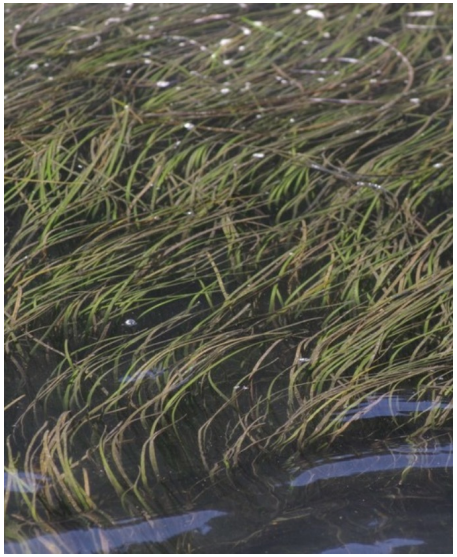
female



Zp *Nanozostera capensis*

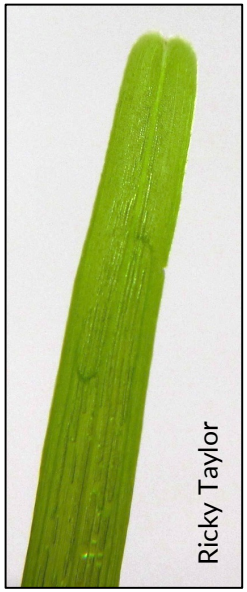
Bioregion 5



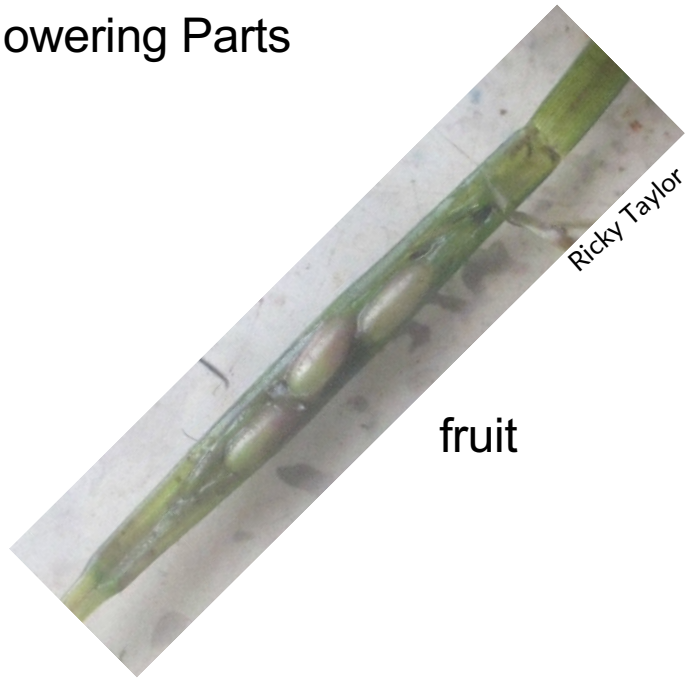


Key
- Round indented leaf tip
- Leaf with staggered cross veins
- Strap-like leaf blades (0.5-2.5 mm)
- Leaves 10-115 cm long
- Persistent leaf sheath
- Monoecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



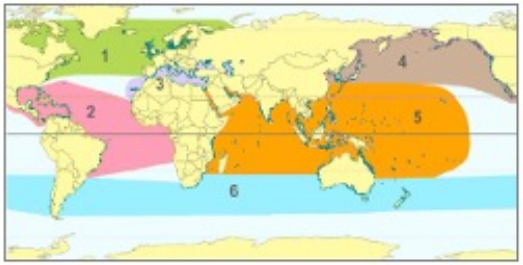
Flowering Parts

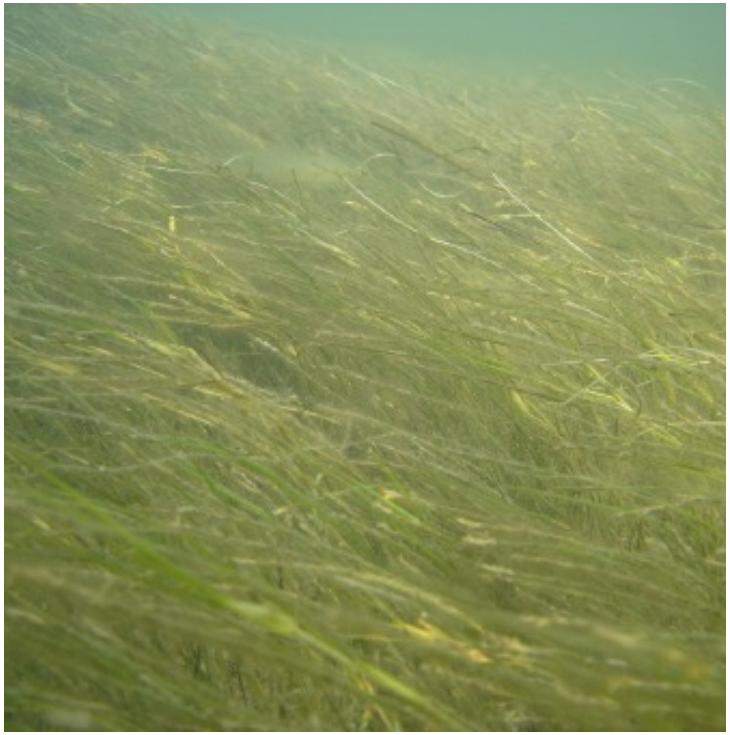


fruit

Rm *Ruppia maritima*

Bioregion 5

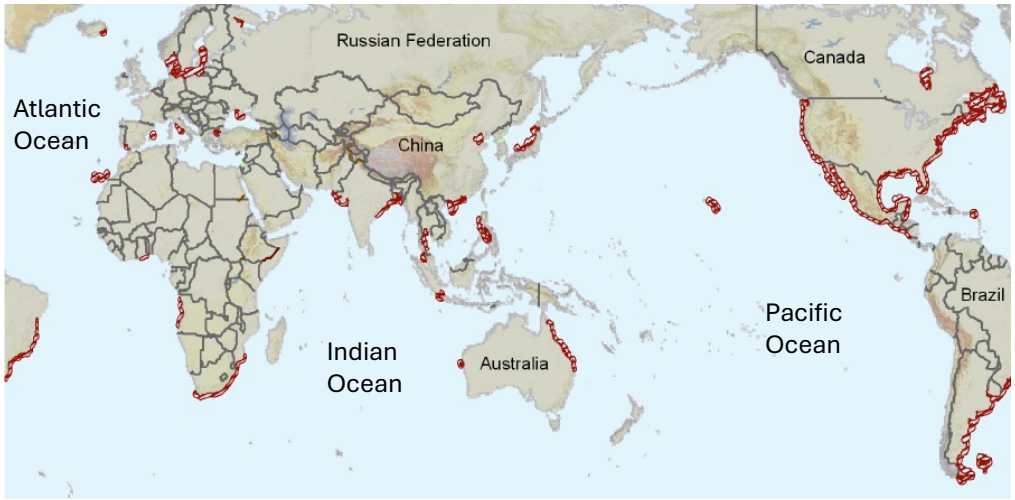




Key

- 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

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