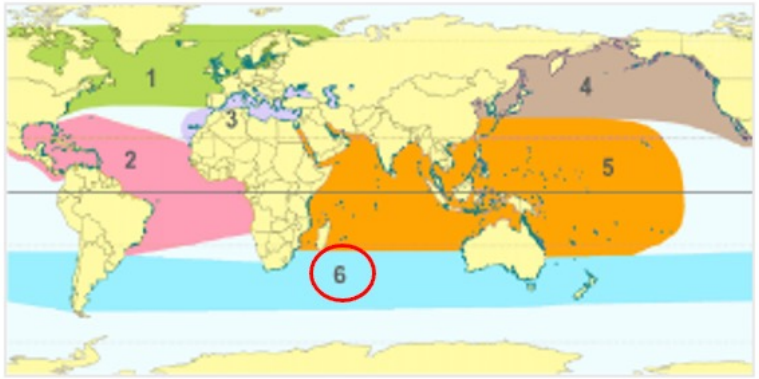
SeagrassNet

Global Bioregion Key




# Seagrass Bioregional Species Key:

## 6 Temperate Southern Oceans Bioregion

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

**From:**

**SeagrassNet**
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fredtshort@gmail.com
www.SeagrassNet.org

**With ratings from:**

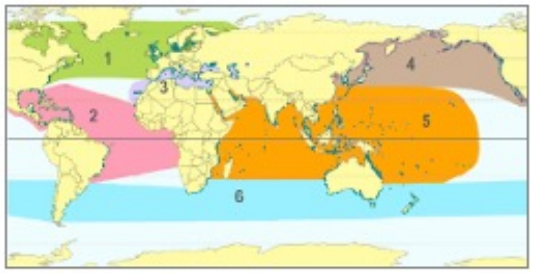
**IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**

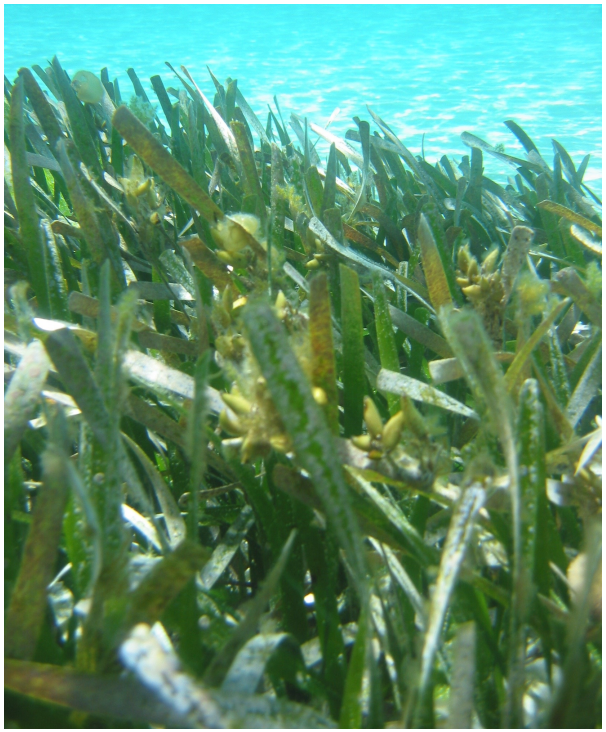
Seagrass Red List

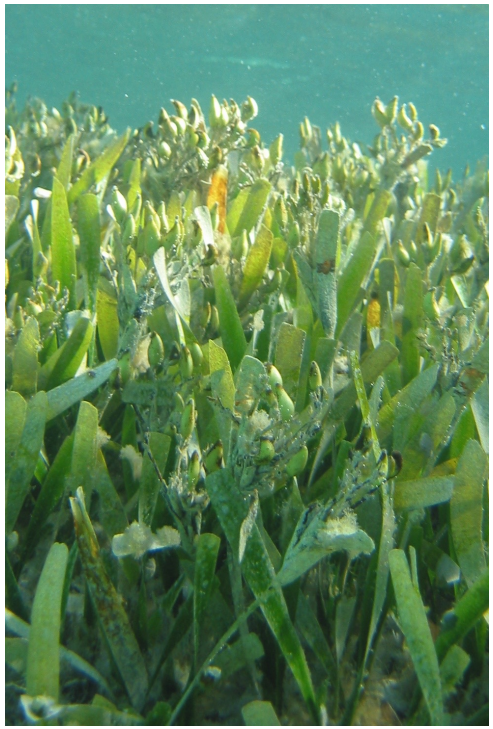
*Bioregional Guide to the Seagrass Species of the World. 2025. F.T. Short. Available on-line www.SeagrassNet.org.*

# Pa *Posidonia australis*

Bioregion 6



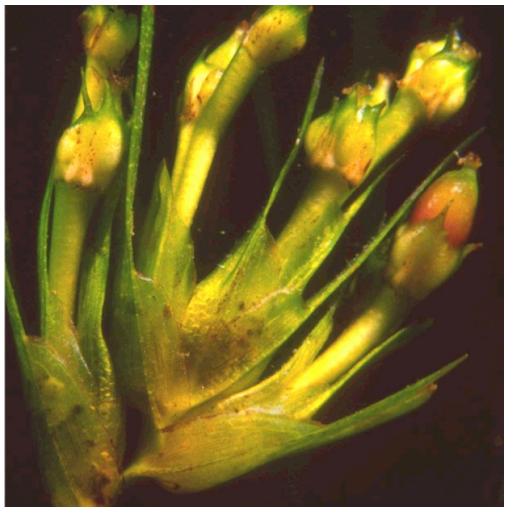





Key
- Leaves 40-60 cm
- Leaf tip rounded
- Rhizome robust, brush-like and fibrous
- Flowers emerge on a stem
- Monoecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

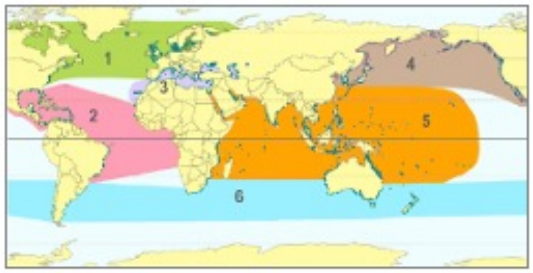

Flowering Parts



Photos from Gary Kendrick

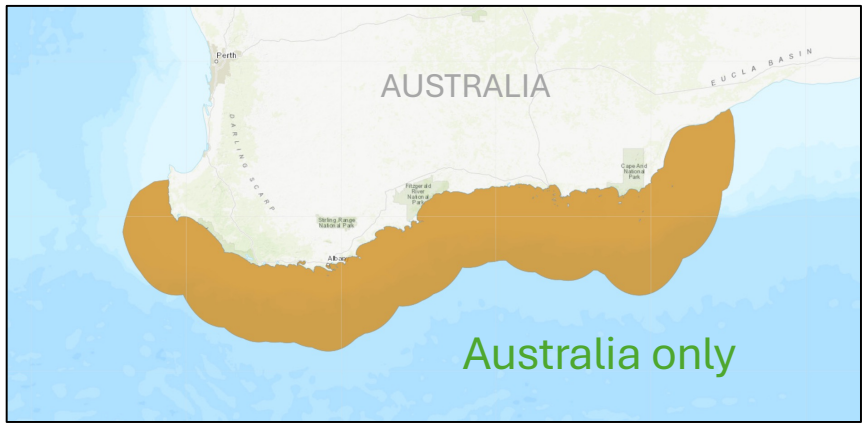
# Pn *Posidonia sinuosa*

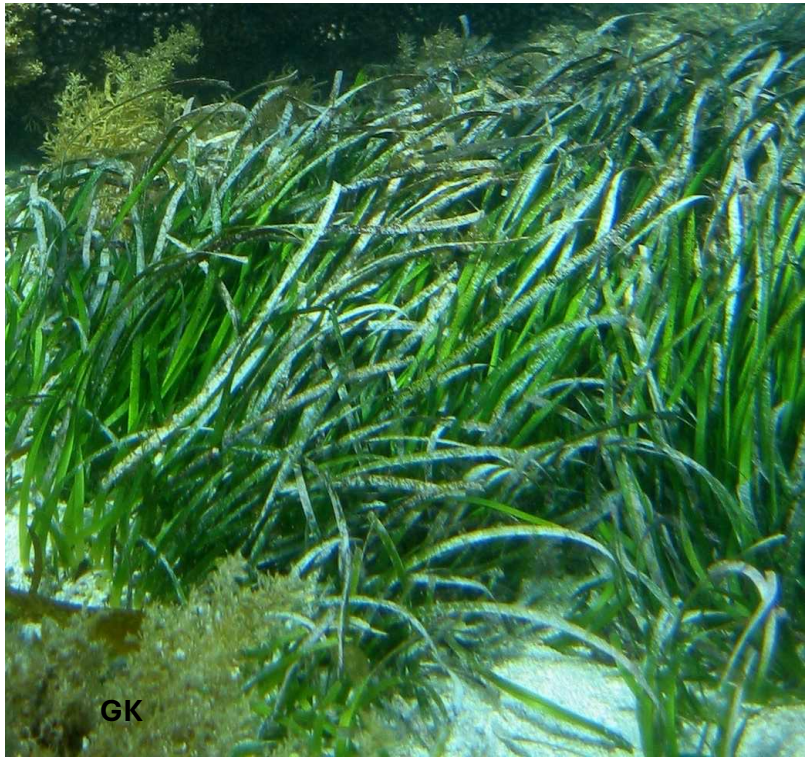
Bioregion
6




Key
- Leaves ribbon like, 140 cm
- Leaf tip rounded
- Leaf sheath membranous
- Flowers emerge at base
- Monoecious

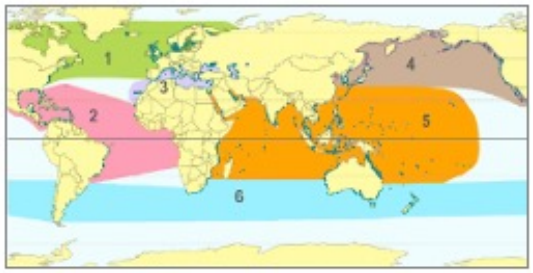
Extinction Risk: Least Concern



# Pg *Posidonia angustifolia*

Bioregion 6



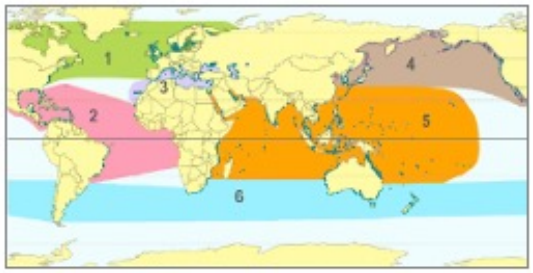


Key
- Leaves ribbon like, 80 cm
- Leaf tip rounded
- Rhizome robust, pale fibers
- Flowers emerge on a stem
- Monoecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

Pf **Posidonia ostenfeldii**

Bioregion 6

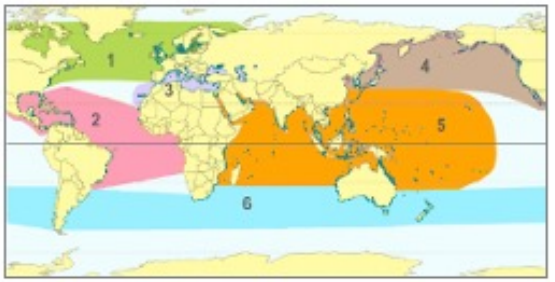



Key
- Leaves thick, round and up to 180 cm
- Leaf tip rounded
- Rhizome enclosed in fine pale fibers
- Flowers emerge on a stem
- Monoecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern


Pd ***Posidonia denhartogii***

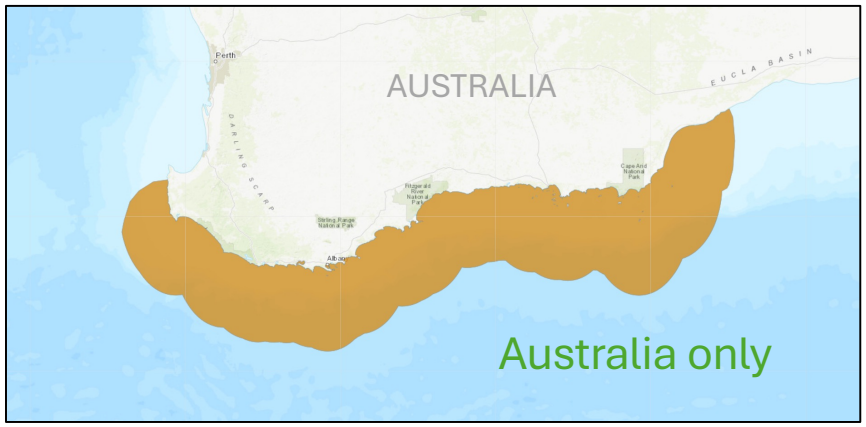
Bioregion 6





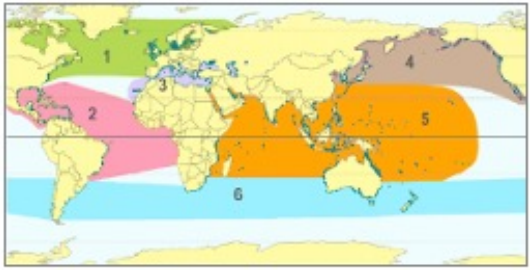
Key
- Leaves biconvex 120 cm
- Leaf tip rounded
- Rhizome robust, pale fibers
- Flowers emerge on a stem
- Monoecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern




# Aa *Amphibolis antarctica*

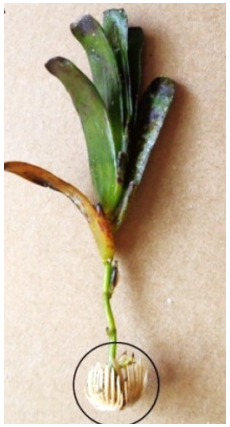
Bioregion 6



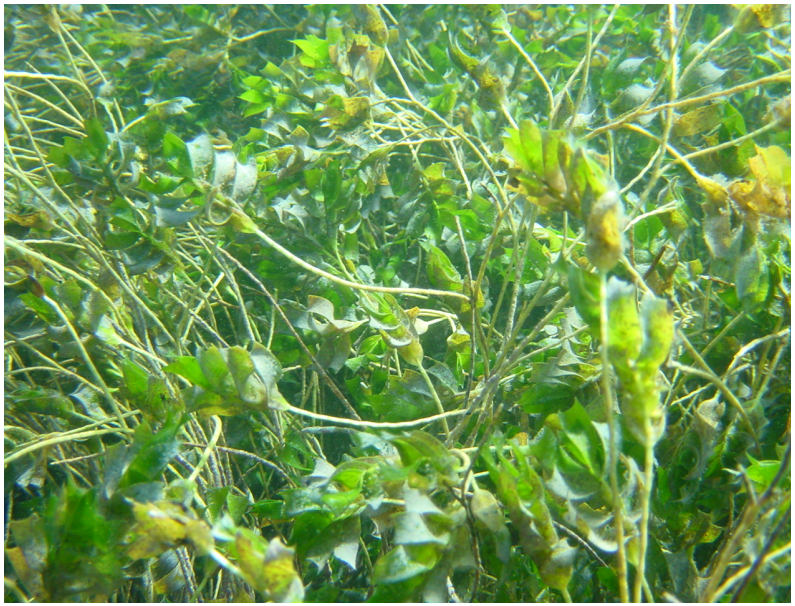


Key
- Wiry stems 1.5 m long
- Leaf crowns of 6-10 bidentate blades
- Strap-like leaf blades (5 cm) twisted

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

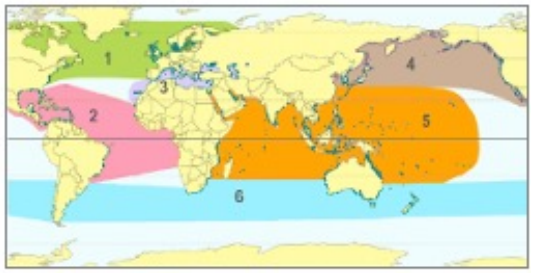
seedling



# Ag *Amphibolis griffithii*

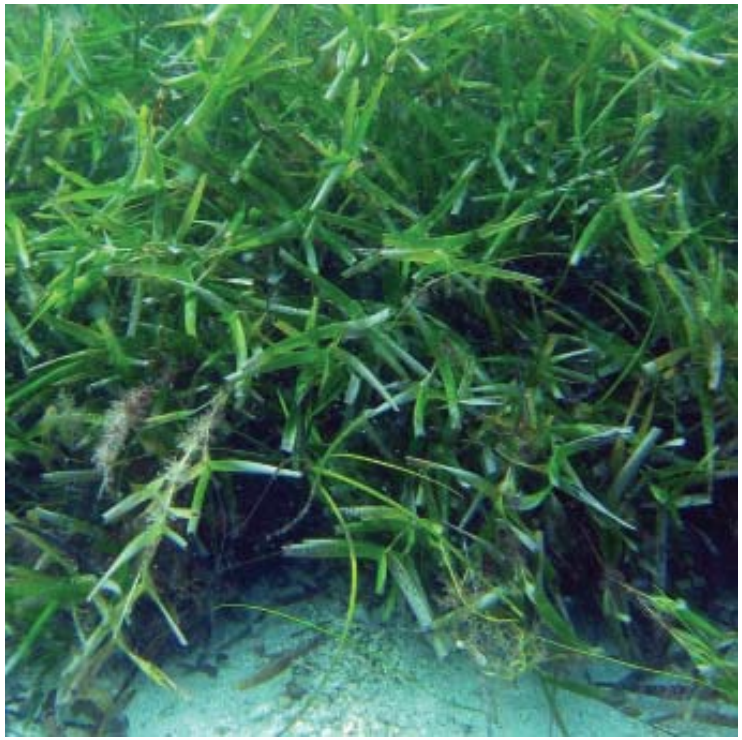


Bioregion 6




Key
- Wiry stems 1.0 m long
- Leaf crowns of 4-5 notched blades
- Strap-like leaf blades (3-10 cm)

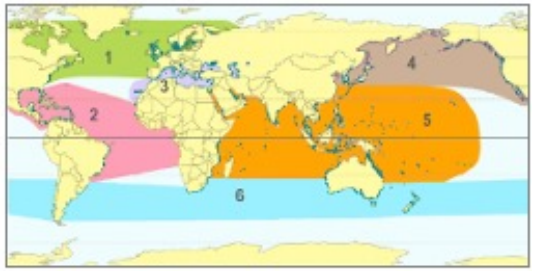
Extinction Risk: Least Concern

ian.umces.edu

# Zo *Heterozostera polychlamys*

Bioregion
6



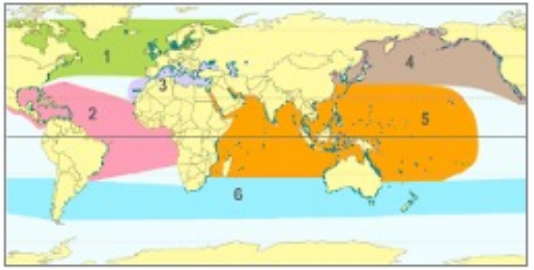
Key
- Squared leaf tip, shallow notch
- Wiry erect stems, not black
- Strap-like leaf blades (0.5-2.5 mm wide)
- Shoot 100 cm long


Extinction Risk: Least Concern

Australia only

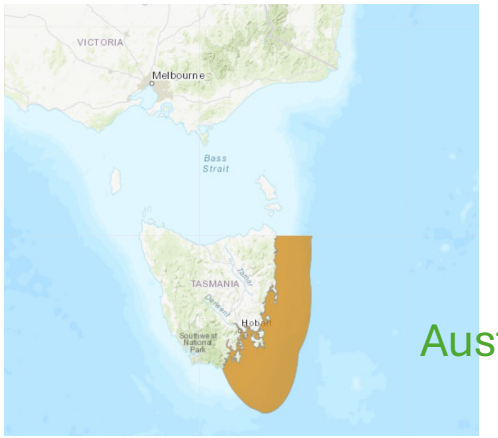
# Zt *Heterozostera tasmanica*

Bioregion
**6**




Key
- Rounded leaf tip, deeply notched
- Wiry erect stems, not black
- Strap-like leaf blades (35cm long)

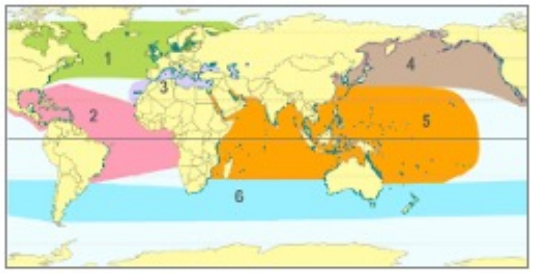
Extinction Risk: Data Deficient




Australia only

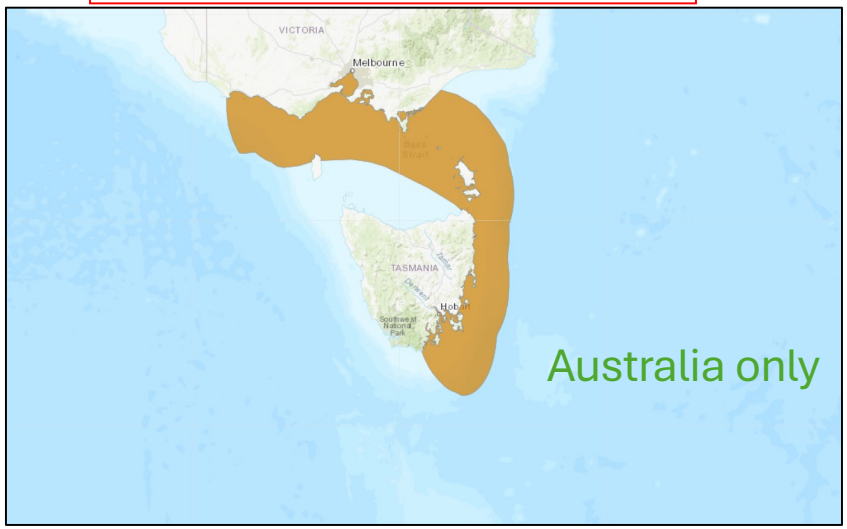
# Zr *Heterozostera nigricaulis*

Bioregion
6



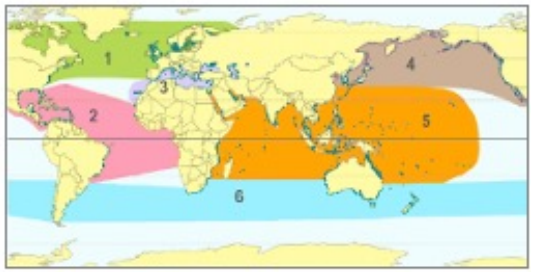

Key
- Squared leaf tip, notched
- Wiry erect stems, black
- Shoot 100 cm long

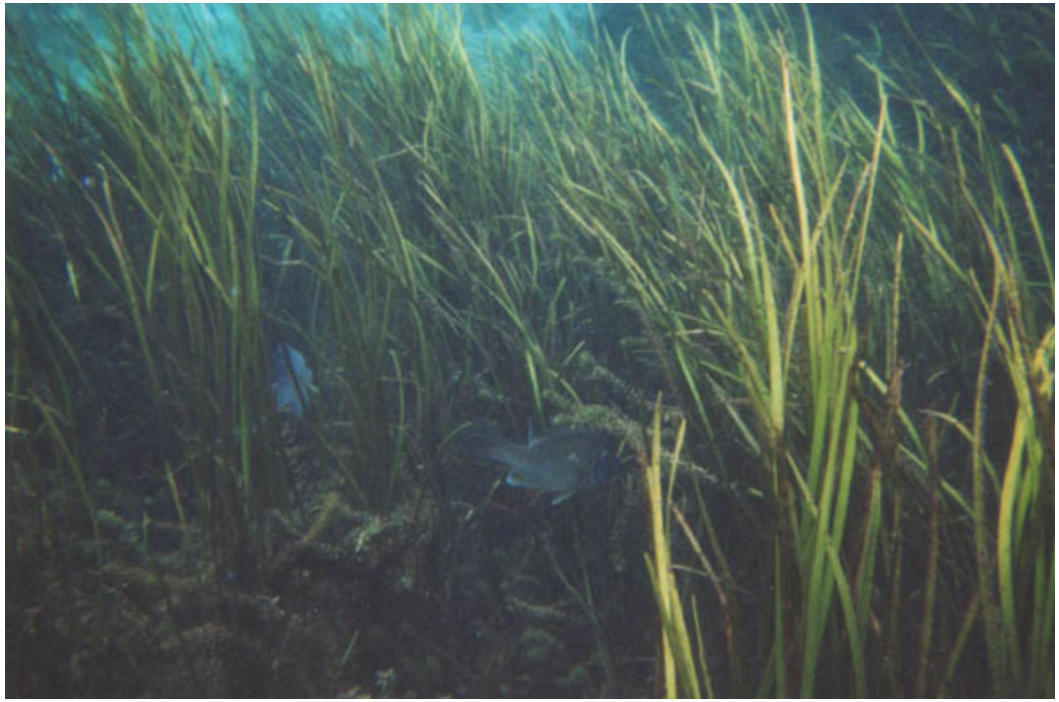
Extinction Risk: Least Concern



# Zh *Heterozostera chilensis*

Bioregion **6**



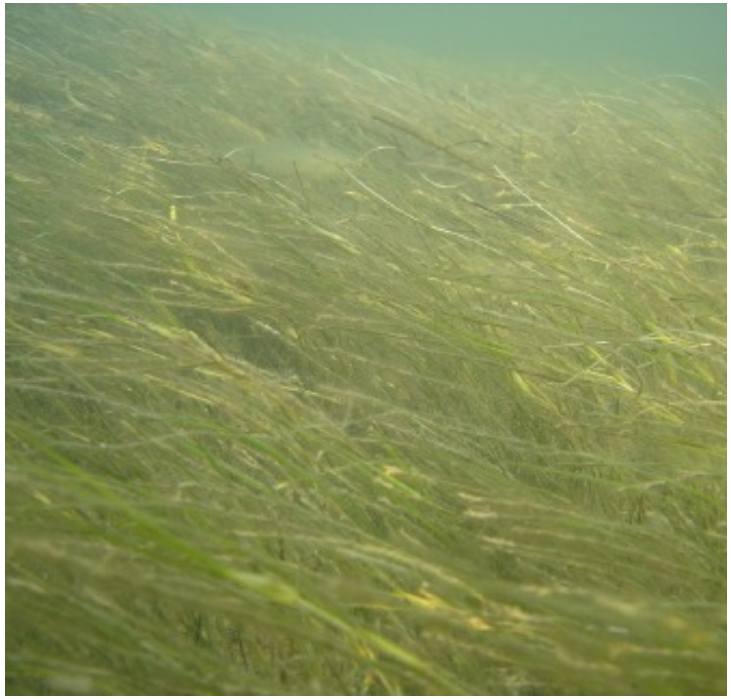


Key
- Squared leaf tip, notched
- Wiry erect stems, dark
- Strap-like leaf blades (0.5-2.5 mm wide)
- Shoot 100 cm long

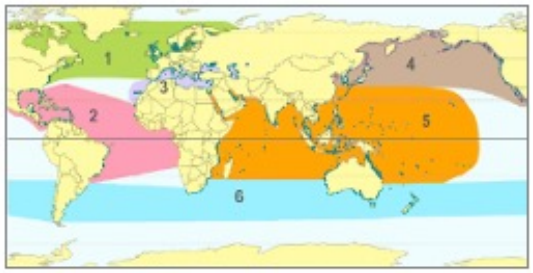
Extinction Risk: **Endangered**

Chile only


# Rm *Ruppia maritima*



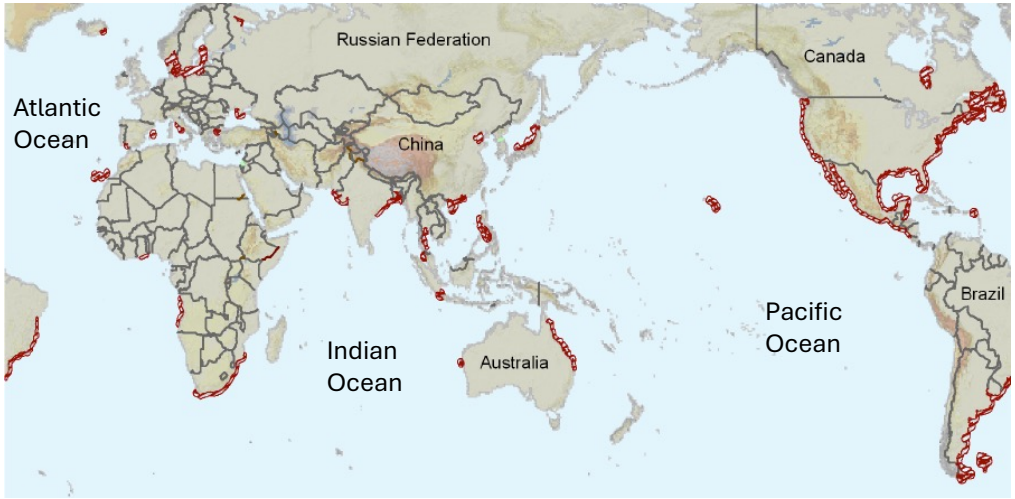
Bioregion 6



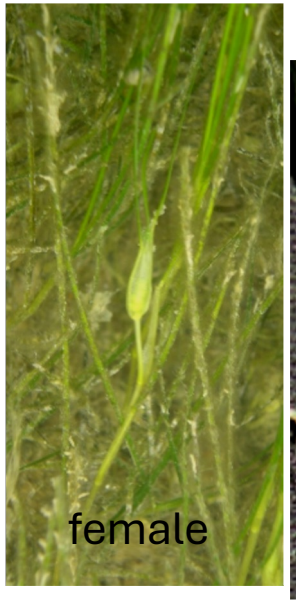

Key

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

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



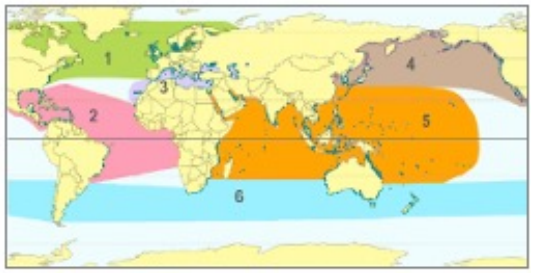

Flowering Parts


fruit

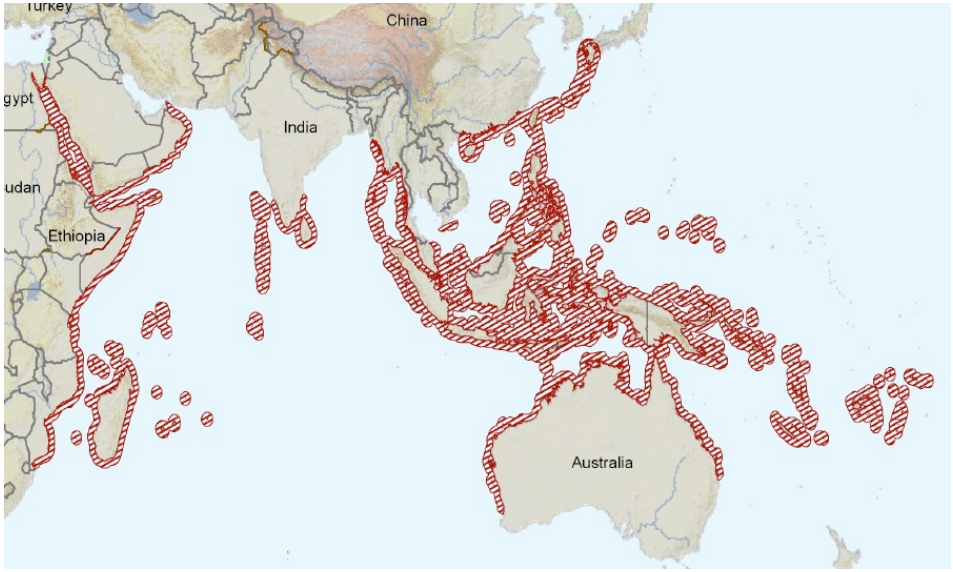
# Si *Syringodium isoetifolium*

Bioregion 6

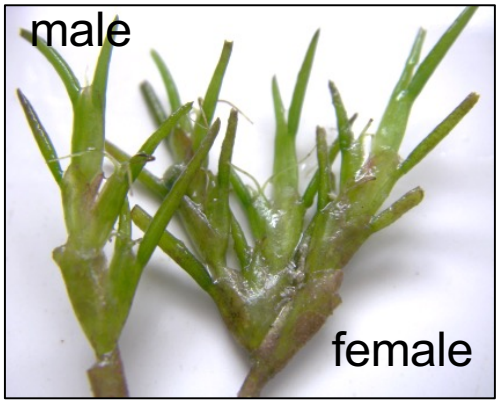



Key
- Leaves cylindrical
- Leaf tips taper
- Leaves 7-30 cm long
- Dioecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



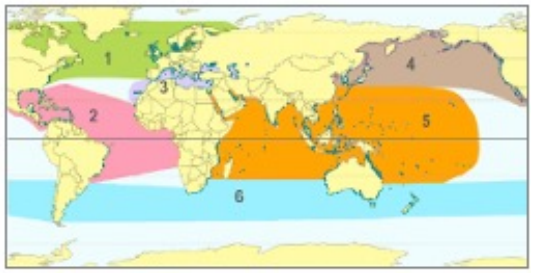

Flowering Parts




fruit

# Tc *Thalassodendron ciliatum*

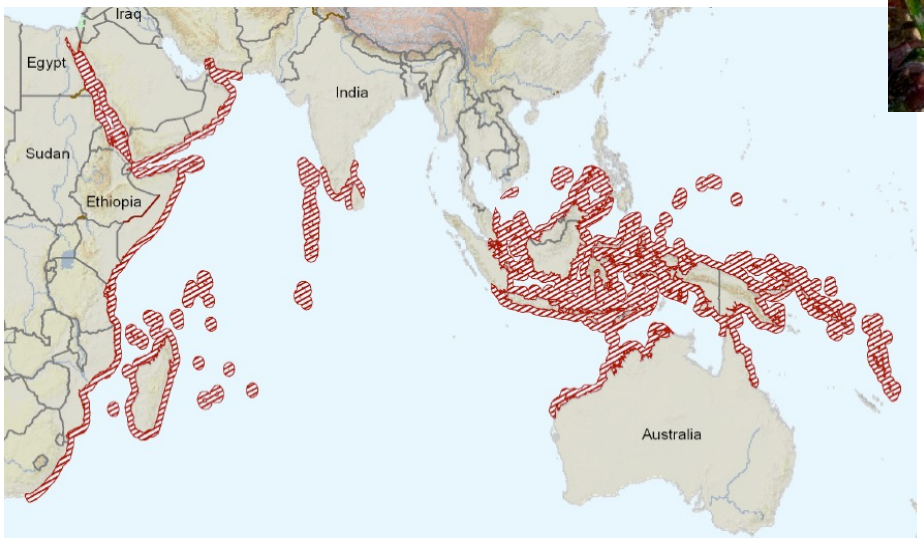
Bioregion 6




Key

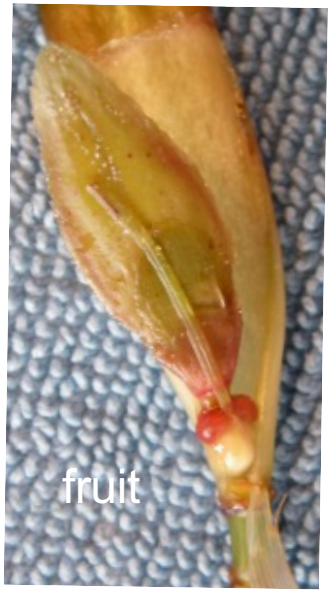
- Cluster of leaves on an erect stem
- Leaves 10-40 cm
- Sickle-shaped leaves with serrated tips
- Rhizome woody
- Dioecious
- Leaves often have red cross-stripes

Extinction Risk: Least Concern



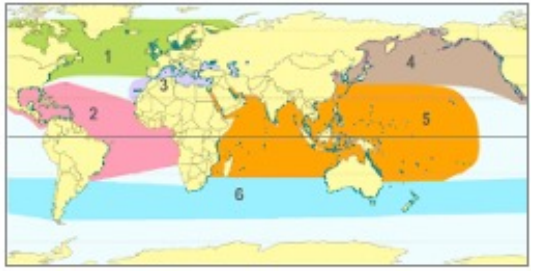

Flowering Parts





# Tp *Thalassodendron pachyrhizum*

Bioregion 6





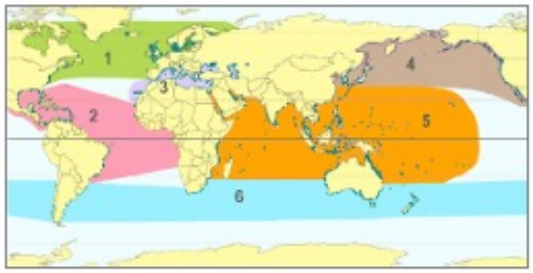
Key
- Cluster of leaves on an erect stem
- Leaves 10-15 cm, thin ribbons
- Sickle-shaped leaves with serrated tips
- Rhizome woody
- Dioecious


Extinction Risk: Least Concern

Australia only

# Zc *Nanozostera muelleri*

Bioregion 6

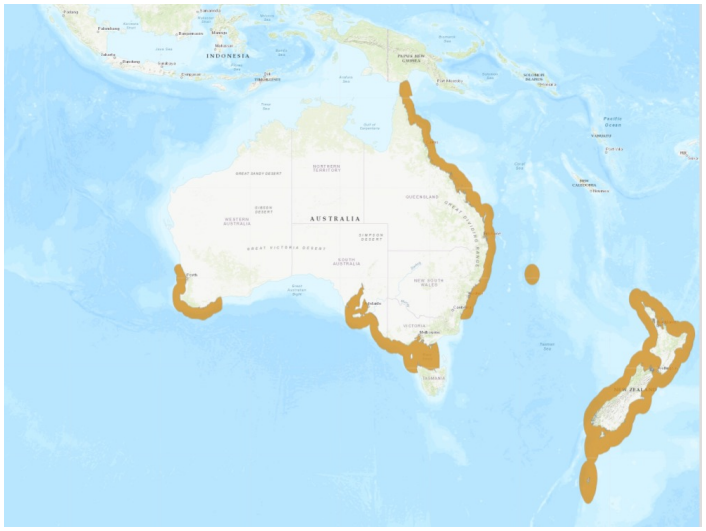


Shaun Lee 2024

Tony Strazzari

Key
- Round leaf tip deeply notched
- Strap-like leaf blades (1-2 mm)
- Leaves 10-60 cm long
- Persistent leaf sheath
- Monoecious
- Previously known as *Zostera capricorni*

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

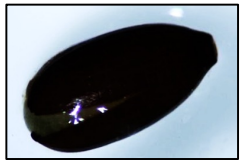



Flowering Parts

Rachel Hooks 2024

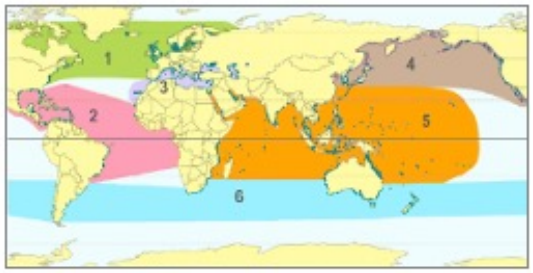
de Kock et al. 2016

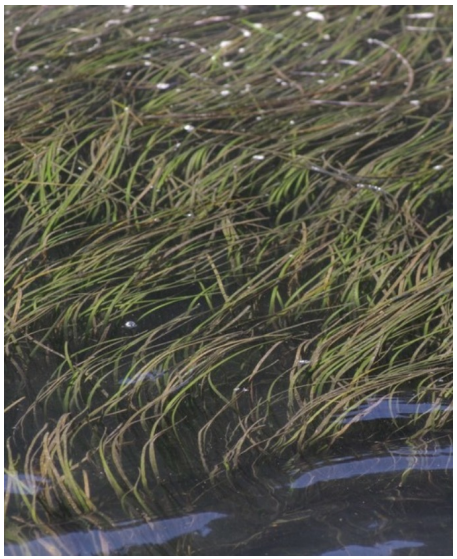
female



# Zp *Nanozostera capensis*

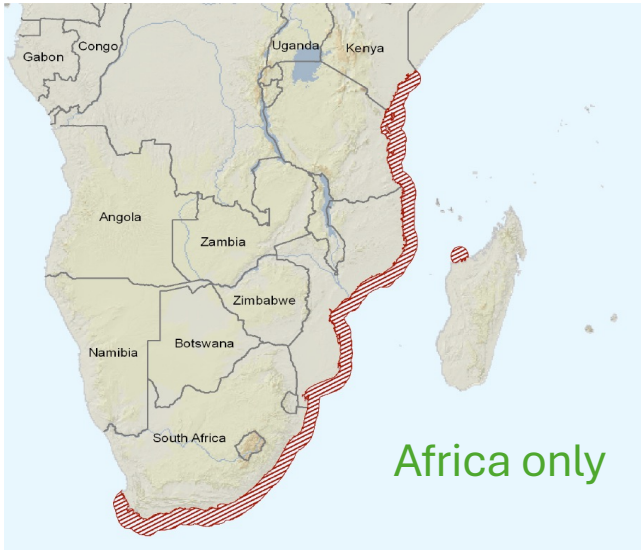
Bioregion 6



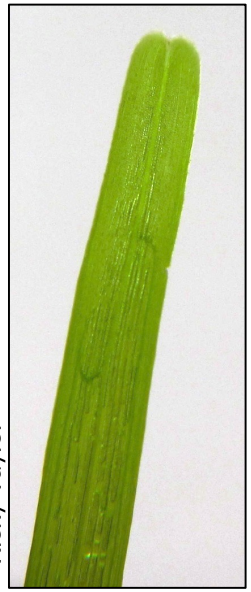


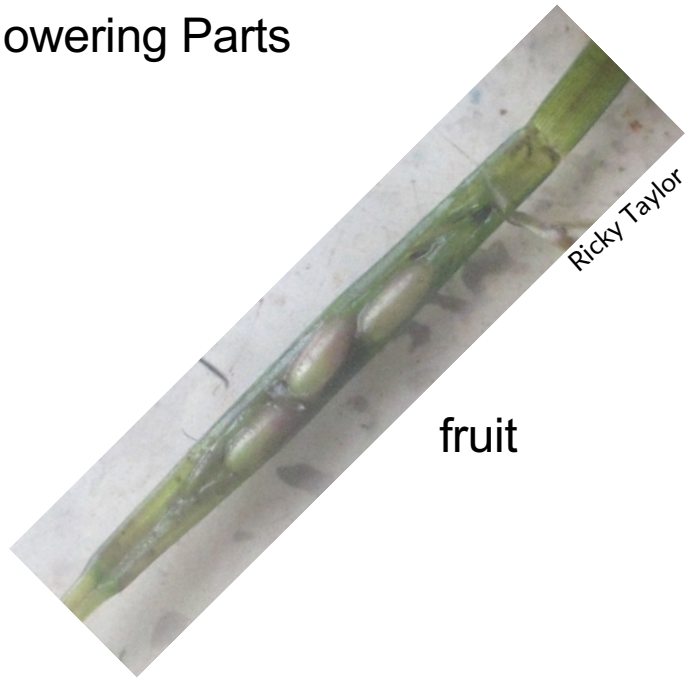
Key
- Round indented leaf tip
- Leaf with staggered cross veins
- Strap-like leaf blades (0.5-2.5 mm)
- Leaves 10-115 cm long
- Persistent leaf sheath
- Monoecious

Extinction Risk: Least Concern




Flowering Parts

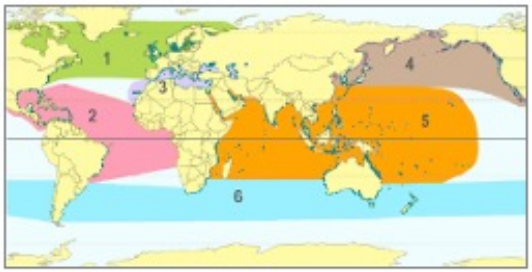



fruit

# Ha *Halophila australis*

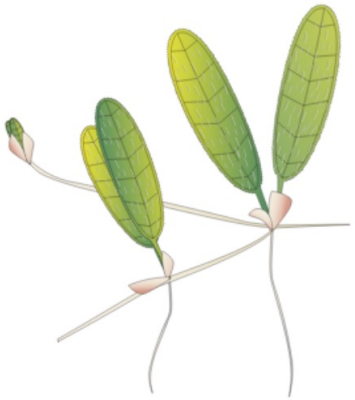
Bioregion 6




Key
- Oval-shaped leaf pairs
- Leaves 2-7 cm long
- No leaf hairs
- Leaf margins smooth
- Dioecious
- Depth 0-10 m

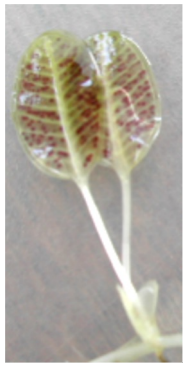
Flowering Parts

Extinction Risk: Least Concern

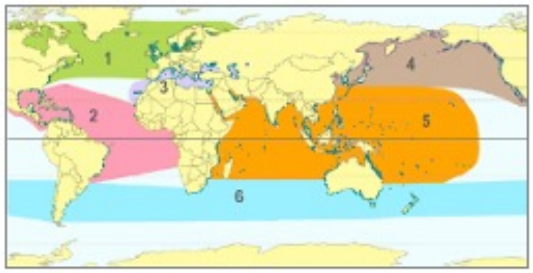



Flowers unique on an erect stalk, female with 6 styles.

# Ho *Halophila ovalis*



Bioregion 6



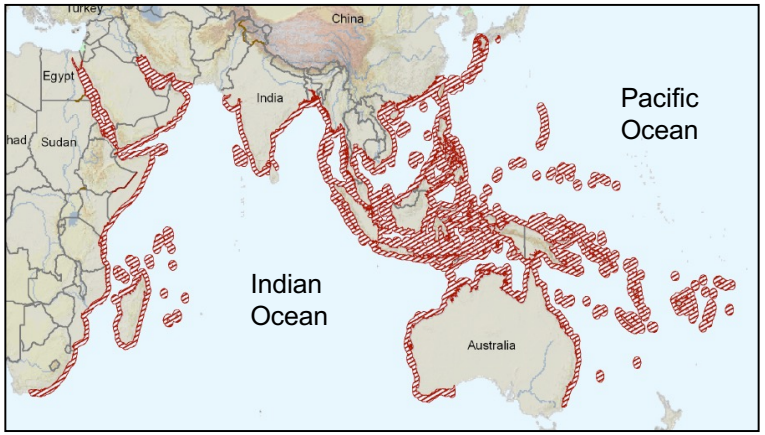

Key

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

Flowering Parts

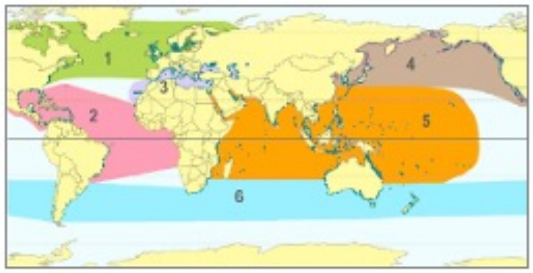


Extinction Risk: Least Concern

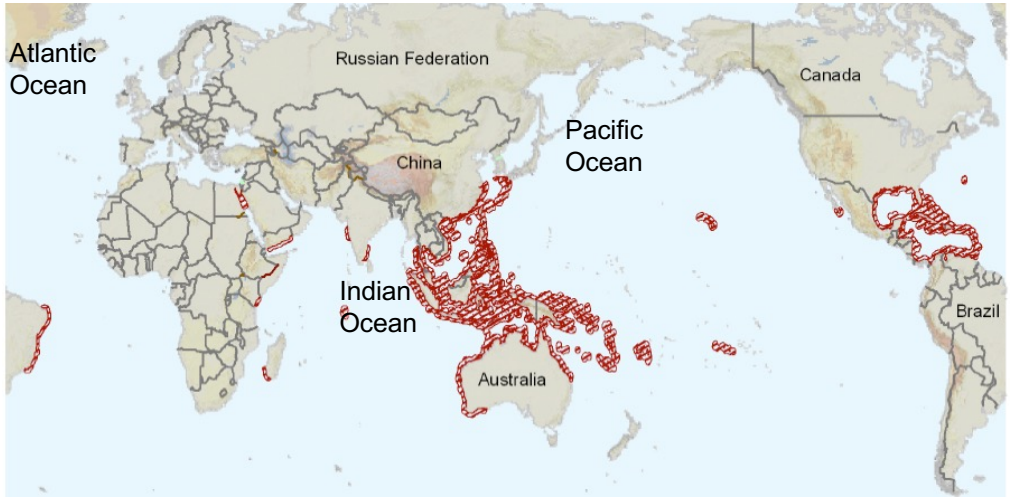
# Hd *Halophila decipiens*

Bioregion 6

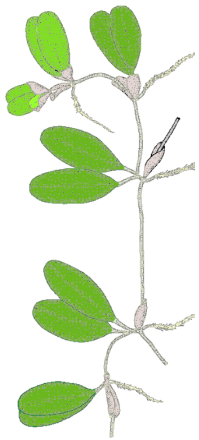


Key
- Paddle-shaped leaves
- Leaf hairs on both sides
- Leaf margins serrated
- Leaves 1-4 cm long
- Monoecious
- Depth 0-30 m

Extinction Risk: Least Concern




Flowering Parts



male & female

fruit

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