

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Plants. Photographer eyeweed, Glen Oak, near Newcastle



Female flower and leaves. Photographer eyeweed, Glen Oak, near Newcastle



Floating male flowers. Photographer eyeweed, Glen Oak, near Newcastle

## Common name

Ribbonweed, Eelweed

## Family

Hydrocharitaceae

## Where found

In stationary or flowing freshwater to 7m deep. Coast, ranges, tablelands, and ACT. Rarely elsewhere.

## Notes

Submerged **perennial** aquatic herb. Leaves basal, to 300 cm long or more, 10-35 mm wide, margins toothed, tips blunt. Usually covered in brown slime and silt. Male and female flowers on separate plants. Male flowers less than 0.5 mm long, less than 1 mm in diameter. Many male flowers within a membranous **sheath**, the sheath opening to release the flowers, which float to the surface. Female flowers 1.9-4 mm long, pink or white inside, with 3 **sepals** 1-2 mm long, and 3 minute **petals**. Female flowers in clusters of 1-4. The **bracts** surrounding the female flowers translucent. Flowers Nov.– Apr..

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Vallisneria-australis> (accessed 8 February, 2021)

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This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



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