

## Anchored water hyacinth

### *Eichhornia azurea*

#### Description

Introduced to the United States as an ornamental in 1884.

#### Habit

Rooted perennial aquatic plant.

#### Leaves

Alternate along the stem. Submersed leaves are sessile while emerged leaves are petiolate. The petiole is never inflated.

#### Stems

Erect

#### Flowers

Held on erect stems above the water surface. Can be from 7 to as many as 50 flowers per stem. Each flower blooms for 1 day and occurs from summer through fall.

#### Fruits and Seeds

each flower can produce 10-13 small winged seeds.





### **Habitat**

Native to Central and South America. Found in freshwater lakes, reservoirs, ponds, marshes and ditches.

### **Reproduction**

By seed or vegetatively.

### **Similar**

American spongeplant (*Limnobium spongia*).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Small populations can be hand pulled before flowering and seed-set. Aquatic herbicides can provide temporary control in small scales. *Neochetina eichhorniae*, *N. bruchi* (weevils), and *Niphograpta albiguttalis* (moth larvae) have been used in tropical and subtropical populations.

### **Credits**

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