

Olive hymenachne

Hymenachne amplexicaulis

Olive hymenachne is declared a Class B (growth and spread to be controlled) and Class C (not to be introduced) weed in the Northern Territory and is a Weed of National Significance in Australia.

Olive hymenachne is a declared weed in accordance with the *Weeds Management Act*.

HABIT



Olive hymenachne is a perennial, robust grass to 2.5m tall. It can grow above or below water, with its roots in the ground.

STEMS & BRANCHES



Although its stems float, they are not hollow and contain white pith.

The stems can form stolons that run along the ground and produce new plants by rooting at the nodes (the joints between sections).

LEAVES



It has long leaves (100 - 450mm) and the leaf base may be up to 30mm wide and covered with long hairs.

The upper part of the leaf is narrower and without hairs. The leaf blade is heart-shaped at its base where it clasps around the stem – this is a key characteristic of this species.

FLOWERS



Flowers occur as a cylindrical cluster (200 - 400mm long) at the end of a spike that is occasionally branched.

The flower cluster is made up of numerous spikelets that are short stalked, 3 - 5mm long and broadest below the middle (lance-shaped).

GERMINATION



Olive Hymenachne reproduces from both seed and broken stem fragments. It produces large numbers of viable seeds – one study reports 98% viability of seed.

Weed Management Officers from the Weed Management Branch can provide advice on all aspects of weed management including control techniques, biological control, legislative responsibilities, policy advice, monitoring and reporting and regional planning. For further information on weed management planning, integrated control, herbicide application techniques and monitoring please refer to the [NT Weed Management Handbook](#).