



## **Tropical Atlantic Region**

### **Supplement to the SeagrassNet Worldwide Manual**

Submit all data, samples, photographs, data sheets, etc. to SeagrassNet at UNH and to the website, as directed in the manual.

Regional Node Coordinator for Belize:

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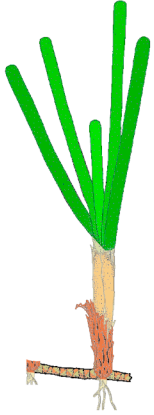
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# Tropical Atlantic Seagrass Identification Guide

## Tt

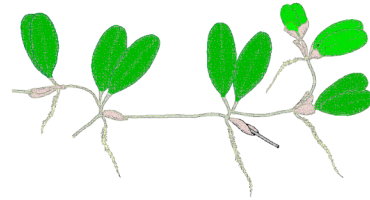
*Thalassia testudinum*



- Flat leaves with small dark tannin cells
- Fibrous leaf sheath
- Thick rhizome with scale leaves between nodes
- Leaves 10-60 cm long

## Hd

*Halophila decipiens*



- Paddle-shaped leaves
- Leaf hairs on both sides
- Leaf margins serrated
- Leaves 1-4 cm long

## Sf

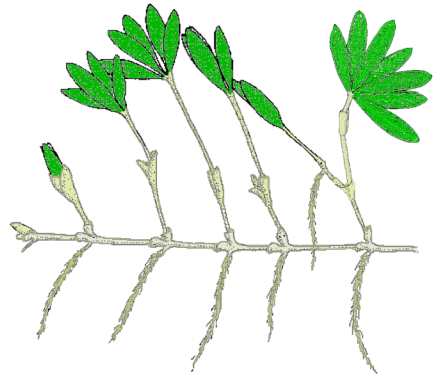
*Syringodium filiforme*

- Leaves cylindrical
- Leaf tips taper
- Leaves 10-60 cm long



## He

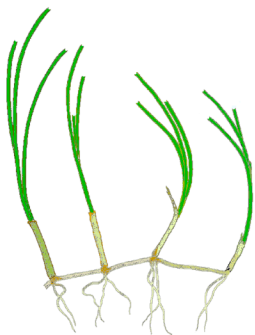
*Halophila engelmanni*



- Leaves in rosette on stem
- 5-8 leaves per rosette
- Pointed leaves with small petiole
- Leaves 2-5 cm long

## Hw

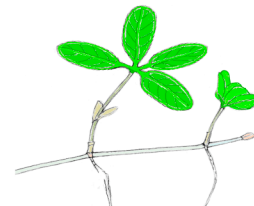
*Halodule wrightii*



- Leaves flat and thin
- Leaf tip with 2-3 points
- Rhizome whitish
- Leaves 2-22 cm long

## Hl

*Halophila baillonii*



- Leaves in rosette on stem
- Leaf margins serrated
- 4-5 leaves per rosette
- Rounded leaves with long petiole
- Leaves 2-3 cm long

## Additional Species in the Region

Rm *Ruppia maritima*

- Thin strap-like leaves to 25 cm long
- Blades gradually taper to a point
- Flowers and fruits on erect branching stem

Hv *Halodule beaudettei*

- Leaves flat and width to 1.5 mm
- Leaf tip with 3 points, center point longest (10x)
- Rhizome whitish
- Leaves 5 – 20 cm long

Hr *Halodule bermudensis* – Bermuda only

- Leaves flat and thin
- Leaf tip with 2 – 3 points,
- Leaves 5 – 20 cm long

Hg *Halodule emarginata* – Brazil only

- Leaves flat and width to 1.5 mm
- Leaf tip notched or rounded, sometimes with lateral points
- Leaves 5 – 11 cm long

Hj *Halophila johnsonii* (may be con-specific with *Halophila ovalis*) – Florida only

- Oval leaves, similar to *H. ovalis*
- Leaf cross-veins 4 – 8
- Leaf width 2 – 4 mm
- Leaf length 8 – 13 mm

Hs *Halophila stipulacea* (introduced species) – Grenada only

- Oval leaves on a short stem
- Large leaf scales at stem base
- Leaves up to 60 mm long, 10 mm wide

