

Saltmarsh and Wetlands

AHS Saline aquatic herbland
Community Description:

Saline aquatic herblands incorporate the brackish and saline aquatic communities where water is noticeably salty to the taste. Species of *Ruppia*, *Lepilaena* and stonewort algae in the genus *Lamprothamnium* are often present in, but not necessarily restricted to, saline aquatic plant communities. These communities occur in areas of permanent or semi-permanent brackish to hyper-saline water that is commonly found in small pools in saltmarshes and along the edges of estuaries. Saline aquatic herblands are the most species-poor of wetland communities. This is the appropriate benchmark to use in assessing the condition of the saline aquatic herbland component of the listed *Wetlands* community (Schedule 3A, *Nature Conservation Act 2002*).

Benchmarks:

Component	Cover %	LF Code
Dominant Life Form	5	H
Organic Litter	10%	

Expected Life Forms	LF code	# Spp	Cover %
Herbs and orchids	H	2	5
Total	I	2	

Species lists:

Dominant Species	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Lamprothamnium</i> spp.	stonewort (charophyte)	H
<i>Lepilaena</i> spp.	watermat	H
<i>Myriophyllum</i> spp.	watermilfoil	H
<i>Ruppia</i> spp.	seatasel	H

Other Typical Species *	Common Name	LF Code
<i>Lepilaena cylindrocarpa</i>	longfruit watermat	H
<i>Mimulus repens</i>	creeping monkeyflower	H
<i>Myriophyllum simulans</i>	amphibious watermilfoil	H
<i>Myriophyllum salsugineum</i>	lake watermilfoil	H
<i>Ruppia</i> spp.	seatasel	H

*This list is provided as a guide only. The species listed are typical of this plant community type but may not necessarily be present.