

Fucus vesiculosus

Native to Maine

Bladder Wrack,
Rockweed

Coastal
Rocky Intertidal

Growth Pattern



Filip Nuyttens



Look for an alga that grows dichotomously, meaning each branch divides into two over and over and over.




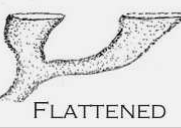

Thallus (Body)



Akappa



Look for an alga that grows up to 1 meter long. The flattish branches have a midrib, a thick central stem-like feature running from bottom to end.

GROWTH PATTERN	THALLUS CROSS SECTION
 DICHOTOMOUS GROWTH	 ROUND
 AXIAL GROWTH	 FLATTENED
	 FLATTENED WITH MIDRIB

Color



Amybo



Look for an olive green-brown alga.

Other Information



alexlomas



Look for pairs of vesicles (air-bladders) along the branches. Also look for swollen, berry shaped receptacles attached to the ends of the branches.

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Similar Species

Bladder Wrack can be confused with Knotted Wrack and other Fucus species in Maine. Bladder Wrack branches are wider and have a distinct midrib (line running down the middle).

Fun Fact

Look for vesicles (air-bladders) on the branches. If this alga grows in a calm place it will have many vesicles. If it grows where there are often big waves it will have few or no vesicles.